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PROPOSAL 'REAL OPPORTUNITY' FOR NORMALIZATION

LD06123 Moscow TASS in English 1122 GMT 6 Mar 84

[Text] Moscow March 6 TASS -- TASS military news analyst Vladimir Bogachev writes:

The Soviet Union regards the prevention of nuclear war to be its main foreign policy objective. It proceeds from the premise that in this nuclear age the parity of military potentials of the Warsaw Treaty and NATO member countries, the USSR and the USA, which has shaped, is a guarantee of peace and security, and does everything in its power to reduce the present military confrontation to a less dangerous level.

On the other hand, the socialist countries stress that the plans of the present United States Administration aimed at ensuring superiority in such fields as strategic weapons, medium-range nuclear weapons in Europe, anti-ballistic missile defence, anti-submarine weapons and outer space anti-satellite weapons are fraught with a threat of a serious destabilisation of the military-political situation in the world. The ambition of the United States to ensure military superiority strongly undermines trust between countries, creates a real threat of a nuclear war breaking out as a result of an error, miscalculation and technical mishaps.

The countries of the socialist community do not seek military superiority, and even in taking the necessary security measures in answer to the build-up of the military potential of the NATO countries, see to it that these measures do not go beyond the framework of the parity which shaped. At the same time, the USSR and its allies will not allow military superiority for the USA and NATO.

In his speech at a meeting with electors in Moscow, Konstantin Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, put forward a concrete programme of real actions to improve the international climate. The leader of the CPSU set forth, in particular, the principles which the Soviet Union made the basis of its policy and urged the other countries to follow similar norms.

Not to permit situations fraught with a nuclear conflict, give up the propaganda of nuclear war, make the commitment never to be the first to use nuclear weapons, not to use nuclear weapons against non-nuclear states, in whose territory such weapons are not deployed, whatever the circumstances, to prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons in any form, work step by step, on the basis of the principle of equal security, for a reduction of nuclear weapons down to their total scrapping in all of their kinds and types -- this is, in a nutshell, the essence of the norms of behavior proposed by the Soviet Union, whose observance by all states would meet the vital interests of the peoples of the whole world.

If the USA and the other NATO countries showed readiness to accept these principles, this would contribute towards tangible progress, even to a breakthrough in international relations.

The Soviet Union has offered the Western countries mutually acceptable, fair decisions to the problems facing the world. This initiative is another important step of the Soviet Union on the way of a quest for the opportunities to better relations with the USA, which have been deadlocked through Washington's fault.

At the present time the Reagan administration has a real opportunity to confirm by its concrete actions its statements on striving for peace, for normalising relations with the Soviet Union.

Now it is for Washington to have its say.

ANY DELAY IN BEGINNING TALKS 'IMPERMISSIBLE'

LD061627 Moscow World Service in English 1410 GMT 6 Mar 84

[Text] The socialist countries members of the Warsaw Treaty Organization have called on the NATO countries to come to terms over the beginning of talks on the commitment not to increase and subsequently reduce their military spending. More from our commentator Viktor Olenichev:

There are moments when any delay is impermissible. Now we have exactly such a moment. The existing situation calls for doubling and redoubling the efforts in order to stop the world sliding to a catastrophe. And this is what the socialist countries are doing. Their new initiative is aimed at bettering the international climate. After all, it is clear even to a layman that every new bomb, new shell and new nuclear missile above all are bound to enhance the risk of a conflict. Besides, so many arms have already been accumulated in the world that this planet can already be destroyed several times over. The arms race eats away huge sums. It slows down the economic and social progress.

Already last year the Warsaw Treaty countries called on the NATO countries to open direct talks on the commitment not to increase the military spending and subsequently reduce it. The problem is not easy at all. But the socialist countries are now proposing measures that can help overcome difficulties and achieve mutually acceptable agreement. As a step towards a solution of the problem, the participants in the two alliances could carry out a small single reduction in the military budget of the members of the two alliances. Each country could determine itself the size of the sum that it would be cutting. Subsequently, these reduced budgets could be freezed for the next 3 years at least. Of special importance would be cuts in the military budgets of the countries possessing nuclear arms. Besides, an agreement could be reached over the establishment of maximum ceilings in military budgets, which can be lower than the existing levels.

The Warsaw Treaty countries have no intention to make their proposals absolute. They are prepared to consider other measures in this direction. The main thing is that the talks to the effect should be conducted in a businesslike way and in a positive spirit. It is also important for the talks to begin as early as possible. The socialist countries therefore propose that preliminary consultations be held so that the aims, date, and place of the talks could be agreed upon, as well as their level. Naturally any country, and first of all those who have big military potential, may join in the effort not to increase and subsequently reduce the military spending. Every state would only benefit from that. Not only the international situation would improve, but considerable sums of money would be released which could go on the needs of a social and economic development of various countries, the developing countries among others.

PACT PROPOSAL 'ACT OF POLITICAL SOBRIETY'

LD062025 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 6 Mar 84

[Text] The proposals by the member states of the Warsaw Pact to the NATO member states regarding talks on reducing and not increasing military expenditure have attracted the attention of the world public and press to the active efforts by the fraternal countries toward weakening international tension.

Having published today the text of this document, the world's progressive press assesses it as a new important peace initiative by the countries of the socialist community. At the microphone is Vladimir Tsvetov, political observer of Central Television and All-Union Radio:

[Txvetov] Speaking on 2 March to the voters, Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, said: It is difficult to name a problem important to the strengthening of peace on which the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries have not come forward with concrete, realistic proposals over the last few years. The present address to the members of NATO is one such proposal.

This initiative was put forward by the socialist countries in January 1983 at the Prague Conference of the Warsaw Pact Political Consultative Committee. The leading party and state figures of the Warsaw Pact states confirmed the initiative in June last year at a meeting in Moscow. Now this initiative, in the form of a proposal with an indication for concrete measures concerning the reduction and nonincrease of military expenditure, has been presented to the members of NATO.

I would like to recall the reaction of the world public to the present proposal when it was first formulated in January 1983. The democratic press of Western Europe pointed out at the time that there was not one single point in the proposal that would contain any kind of even veiled threat to anybody's interests either in Europe or North America. The bourgeois mass information media were forced to admit that the proposal by the socialist countries can become a starting point for a second round of the relaxation of international tension. The Third World press noted with satisfaction that the proposal by the socialist countries raised the hope of expanding the possibility of socioeconomic development for the developing states.

Similar assessments take on even more important significance now as, in conditions of growing international tension, the measures for the reduction and nonincrease of military expenditure can be the first step to the necessary halting of the arms race and the transfer to disarmament. On the other hand, 800 million people in various regions of the world presently live in conditions of absolute poverty. There are 814 million illiterate adults, and 123 million children do not go to school. It is necessary to explain how beneficial a partial reduction of military spending, which in 1983 amounted to $663 billion, would be for unfortunate people living in ignorance. Has mankind really already saved itself from sickness? Has our dependence on the blind forces of nature really been completely liquidated? You see, with the money that goes to the construction of just one fighter bomber it is possible to build a 300-bed hospital equipped with the latest medical technology, or carry out irrigation on a territory equal to one-third of Portugal.

This is why the current proposal by the socialist countries is not merely an act of political realism, but also the manifestation of the humanist spirit chatacteristic of socialism as a system.

NUCLEAR FREEZE 'EASIER' THAN OTHER ACCORDS

LD062031 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1530 GMT 6 Mar 84

[Text] Tallin, 6 Mar (TASS) -- A freeze of nuclear weapons may be the first step towards the stabilization of the international situation and the improvement of the political climate," Andrey Kokoshin, deputy director of the Institute of the United States and Canada of the USSR Academy of Sciences, has stated.

He spoke today at a session of the Committee of Soviet Scientists in Defense of Peace and Against the Nuclear Threat, which is taking place here in the capital of Estonia (the Soviet Baltic region).

A freeze on nuclear weapons, the prominent Soviet historian continued, would halt the development of the destabilizing factors of the arms race, creating a necessary pause, and would make it possible to pass on to the discussion of the question of the limitation and radical reduction of nuclear weapons, which the Soviet Union has consistently come out in favor of.

Soviet scientists, Kokoshin noted, have analyzed a broad spectrum of possible methods of control over these processes and they have come to the conclusion: The overwhelming majority of the aspects of a freeze are controlled by national technological methods, mainly by satellites, and existing experience of their use makes it possible to say that a freeze would possibly be easier to control than other kinds of agreements.

ACADEMICIAN VELIKHOV ON DANGERS OF NUCLEAR WAR

LD061501 Moscow TASS in English 1418 GMT 6 Mar 84

[Text] Tallinn March 6 TASS -- "Nuclear weapons are not muscles, but malignant tumor on the body of mankind, "Soveit academician Yevgeniy Velikhov, vice president of the U.S.S.R. Academy of Sciences and chairman of the Committee of Soviet Scientists for Peace, Against the Nuclear Threat, has declared. He spoke today at the committee's session in the Estonian capital. Nuclear weapons, the prominent Soviet physicist said, should not be viewed as either a means of warfare or a means of politics, but only as a means of suicide. There are no effective defenses against nuclear weapons. There will be no victors in a nuclear war, Yevgeniy Velikhov stressed.

Studies conducted by Soviet scientists have confirmed that even a local nuclear conflict, due to climatic, ecological, biological and socio-economic consequences of nuclear war, will affect the entire earth population, including inhabitants of countries not involved in the war.

It is necessary to stop immediately the nuclear arms race and move towards nuclear disarmament.

Conclusions drawn by Soviet scientists on many topical problems of war and peace, the academician stressed, coincided with those of their foreign colleagues. The sharp aggravation of the international situation through the fault of the West's ruling circles, he recalled, resulted in the emergence of a great number of organizations of scientists in several capitalist countries, which are vigorously opposed to the arms race and use of scientific achievements for militarist purposes. Many of these organizations expressed their desire to maintain durable and long-term contacts with their Soviet counterparts. "Our further activity will be oriented at cooperation with them," the Soviet scientist said.

CHERNENKO CITED ON CHEMICAL WEAPONS BAN

LD061408 Moscow in English to North America 2300 GMT 5 Mar 84

[Text] Addressing his electorate in Moscow on Friday, the Soviet leader, Konstantin Chernenko, declared that the assurances of the American Administration about its good intentions can be taken seriously only when they are supported by concrete action.

The Soviet Union, he went on, has always favored the searches of mutually acceptable practical solutions of concrete issues in favor of the two countries, in favor of peace. There are quite a few such concrete issues. The American Administration has many opportunities for backing its peace intentions by deeds, Konstantin Chernenko underlined. He pointed to the need, while listing other problems, to save mankind from the use of chemical arms. Negotiations over that issue have been going on for a long time already. In the commentary that follows, Igor Aleksandrov discusses several Soviet proposals, serving to meet the task of ensuring a total ban on chemical arms and destroying their accumulated stocks.

In 1982 the Soviet Union submitted a draft document where major provisions were outlined for a convention banning the development, production, and accumulation of the stocks of chemical arms and providing for its elimination. The document summed up everything positive that had been gained in the course of the many-year talks in the past. Significantly, the document contained compromise proposals concerning the system of control over the implementation of the convention. In 1983 the Soviet proposals were concretized even further and made more accurate with the aim of meeting the proposals of other countries and of reaching mutually acceptable agreements.

Yet Washington, despite its assurances that it was ready to seek a ban on chemical arms, showed no inclination at all to reach an agreement. Moreover, the American Administration even toughened its stand. It renounced some of the previously agreed provisions of an international convention. The White House also opposed at the time the idea of freezing chemical arms proposed by the Soviet Union. In these conditions the Soviet Union suggested early this year, together with other countries, members of the Warsaw Treaty Organization, that this problem can first be tackled at a regional level. That is, they suggested that Europe be freed from chemical arms and safe guarantees be provided for the observance of such an agreement. The proposal of the socialist countries won the broad backing of the public. The Finnish newspaper TIEDONANTAJA wrote that the proposal deserved every possible approval since, if realized, it will help lessen the risk of a chemical war in Europe and clear the way for banning chemical arms on a global scale. It would help build up mutual confidence and improve the general political atmosphere.

This initiative, however, was turned down by the White House. One may say that the American Administration holds a negative stand on all the problems dealing with a ban on chemical arms. Most probably this is because the United States possesses the world's biggest chemical arsenal. It has now embarked on the implementation of the program of chemical rearmament that costs $10 billion. This program focuses first and foremost on the production of binary shells -- meant, incidentally, for the European war theater. In the meantime, to save mankind from a possible use of chemical arms is a very important task. Realizing that, the Soviet Union, for its part, continues doing everything possible for bringing about its positive solution. The Soviet delegation at disarmament talks now on in Geneva tabled recently new proposals providing for broad measures of control over the observance of a convention banning chemical arms, including the use of on-the-spot inspection. As Konstantin Chernenko pointed out in his speech on Friday, what is involved in them is a total and an all-around ban on the use of chemical arms, on their development and production, and the elimination of all their stocks. The Soviet Union is for the effective control over the implementation of such an agreement. This control must cover the entire process of the elimination of chemical arms from the beginning to the very end, the Soviet leader said.

BLOC COLLECTIVES DISCUSS USSR OIL, GAS PROJECTS

PM061419 Moscow TRUD in Russian 6 Mar 84 p 3

[Report by A. Kalashnikov: "Cooperation Is Strengthening"]

[Text] A conference of representatives of trade union organizations of labor collectives of Bulgaria, the GDR, Poland, the Soviet Union, and Czechoslovakia taking part in the construction of oil and gas industry establishments on USSR territory opened in Moscow yesterday.

The joint development of the Soviet Union's fuel and energy resources has become a graphic example of the fraternal states' mutually advantageous cooperation in the interests of each country and the entire socialist community. The conference is discussing the tasks of the further development of international socialist competition aimed at the ahead-of-schedule commissioning of production, housing and consumer, and social installations, improving the efficiency and quality of work, and consolidating the collaboration between the socialist countries' labor collectives.

SOCIALIST AGRICULTURAL SYSTEMS DETAILED

LD061813 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1245 GMT 6 Mar 84

[Excerpts] In letters and by telephone listeners ask us to continue the story of the CEMA countries' agrarian policy. Geliy Ivanovich Shmelev, doctor of economic sciences, head of agrarian problems sector of the Institute of the World Socialist System of the USSR Academy of Sciences, answers your questions.

Geliy Ivanovich, listeners ask: Is the public sector the basis of agrarian production in all CEMA countries? This question is asked by Comrade Shmelko from Vinnitsa. Or another, from Comrade Pivovarov from Kirzhach: Is agriculture structured everywhere, as in our country, the Soviet Union? Obviously there is a need to describe in more detail the strides that have been made in the agrarian sector of fraternal countries.

[Shmelev] The transformation of peasant farms into cooperatives was basically completed in the overwhelming majority of countries by 1960-61, but even now there are substantial differences in the level of cooperation of the peasantry and its scale -- from Poland, where hitherto the individual peasantry have predominated, to the USSR and Mongolia, where all the peasantry are united in cooperatives. Between these extremes there are several countries where the scope of cooperatives is not complete. In Romania, for instance, 18 percent of gross production comes from individual peasant farms, in Cuba 23 percent, GDR 5 percent. Alongside cooperatives, a big role has been played in the socialist transformation of agriculture by sovkhozes. They were the model of socialist management in the countryside and helped cooperatives in their organizational, management and material-technical consolidation. Development of the socialist sector in the countryside did not progress in the same way at all, which is evidence of the lack of justification of bourgeois propaganda claims about the alleged barrack like monotony in the agrarian policy of socialist countries. In particular, in such CEMA countries as Hungary, the GDR, Mongolia, Romania, Czechoslovakia, the main form of socialist agricultural enterprise is the cooperative. Cuba, Poland, the USSR have the sovkhoz. Agricultural enterprises in CEMA countries differ in size. In the Soviet Union the average kolkhoz has 3,600 hectares of crop land, but in Poland the cooperatives have only 243 hectares, or nearly 15-times less.

The form of distribution of income differs in the agricultural cooperatives of different countries also. In Mongolia, Romania, the USSR, and Czechoslovakia distribution is done only for labor, while in some cooperatives of Hungary, the GDR, Poland, and Cuba, payment per plot of land [vyplaty po zemelnomy payu] is still maintained as an additional form of distribution.

There is a big difference from other countries belonging to CEMA in development of the agrarian sector in the GDR. Here, in the process of development of specialization, specialized livestock and crop-farming cooperatives have grown from multisector farms. Since one cannot do without the other, there are close links between them through the mediation of contractual relations. In Mongolia, in contrast to other countries, sectoral division between sovkhozes and cooperatives has become established. Sovkhozes have a mainly crop-farming bias, while cooperatives mainly engage in livestock breeding.

A special situation has taken shape in the socioeconomic structure of agriculture in Bulgaria. In that country at the start of the seventies APKS were created -- agro-industrial complexes -- big associations compromising cooperatives and sovkhozes. In the APKS there was a rapprochement of both forms of ownership. By creating common funds and single planning, Bulgarian statistics now lists APKS' property as a state form of ownership.

[Presenter] May we have a few words about subsidiary farms? As a component of socialist agrarian production, although they account for only 1 and 1/2 percent of public estates, they are an additional source of food.

[Shmelev] The main importance of the private subsidiary farm is to do with the consumer. They grow only a little, for the family needs of the owners of private subsidiary farms. But the very sizes of the private plots of the rural population make it possible -- with intensive use -- to produce quite a lot of output over and above the needs of the individual family, and it is marketed through various channels.

In the past decade, the production of meat on private farms in Bulgaria, per head of population, has grown by more than 17 kilograms [as heard]. The public subsidiary farms of nonagricultural enterprises and institutions may become quite an important source of food production. In the last few years these additional sources of obtaining food has been given much attention in Bulgaria, Cuba, Mongolia, Romania, and the Soviet Union. In this way, the fraternal countries use different types of farm and various forms of ownership -- state, cooperative, private -- and various volumes of concentration of production -- big, medium, small -- for raising supplies of food to the populace, developing agriculture and the whole agro-industrial complex.

FURTHER REACTION TO CHERNENKO ELECTION SPEECH

PM061211 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 5 Mar 84 First Edition p 4

[TASS roundup: 'In Mankind's Interests"]

[Excerpt] Feb 4 -- The election speech of K.U. Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, in which he set out an in-depth analysis of the key problems of the USSR's domestic situation and determined the crucial areas in which the Soviet people's efforts are now to be focused, has evoked a lively response in the hearts of millions of people in different countries.

Broad circles of the progressive world public have perceived the continuity of the party's political course expressed in the Soviet leader's speech, a course aimed at improving developed socialism and steadfastly implementing the guidelines of the 26th CPSU Congress, which were creatively enriched and concretized by subsequent Central Committee plenums, as new evidence of the intentions of the CPSU and the Soviet state to continue to do their utmost to improve the Soviet people's well-being.

Prominent foreign statesmen and public figures and the mass media have rated highly the package of positve intiatives contained in K.U. Chernenko's speech and aimed at normalizing international relations and improving the world's political climate. There has been a broad response in particular to the CPSU Central Committee general secretary's proposals that relations between states possessing nuclear weapons be subject to certain norms and principles already forming the basis of the Soviet Union's policy.

The speech delivered by the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee when closing the election campaign in the Soviet Union demonstrates the unshakable unity of the party and the people, NEUES DEUTSCHLAND (GDR) writes. Soviet people experience a sense of profound satisfaction at the fruitful results of the CPSU's domestic and foreign policy in the years since the previous USSR Supreme Soviet elections. The party planned to further accelerate the rate of economic and social development and to improve the people's well-being in that period and promised the people it would make every effort to preserve peace and strengthen the country's defense capability. Familiarizing oneself with the Soviet leader's speech, one can say with complete confidence that the party and its Leninist Central Committee have kept their word to the people.

During the speech in the Kremlin's Palace of Congresses, K.U. Chernenko stated with full justification that the years since the previous elections have been fruitful, Czechoslovakia's RUDE PRAVO notes. In his speech, which has been received throughout the world with tremendous interest, the Soviet leader pointed out that the USSR's production forces have been strengthened and substantially renewed. More than 1,000 industrial enterprises equipped with modern machinery have been commissioned and tremendous numbers of existing plants and factories have been rebuilt or modernized. Although the complexities of international life have diverted considerable resources to the needs of strengthening security, no one in the Soviet Union has even contemplated cutting back on social programs. After all, the ultimate goal of all the work of the CPSU and the Soviet Government is to improve the people's life.

"Without dwelling on its achievements, the Leninist party directs Soviet people toward the energetic solution of the problems of intensive economic development," Hungary's MAGYAR NEMZET stresses. "In his address to Soviet voters, the CPSU Central Committee general secretary outlined the main paths of further profound qualitative changes in the national economy and of ensuring the rapid and uninterrupted renewal of all sectors on the basis of present-day scientific and technical achievements.

With the utmost urgency the party raises the question of widely developing the socialist management of the economy and the restructuring of the economic mechanism. The main avenues of this work were defined in K.U. Chernenko's speech. They fully accord with the Leninist principle of democratic centralism."

The improvement of Soviet people's well-being and the scaling of new heights in the development of the socialist economy are inseparable from the preservation and consolidation of peace, a commentary by Bulgaria's BTA points out. This is why the party and the Soviet state have steadfastly followed and continue to follow one of the Soviet voters' most important and most urgent instructions -- to protect peace and to safeguard the socialist motherland's security above all else. The USSR's love of peace is no abstract concept. As K.U. Chernenko's speech convincingly makes clear, it is based on a sober analysis of the disposition of political forces in the international arena and a realistic approach to the main problem of the present day -- that of preserving civilization. In this respect the Soviet leader's speech is an outstanding document covering all the main issues of international politics in our nuclear age. The speech provided a further development of the USSR's constructive approach to peace questions and demonstrates the firmness of the Soviet Union's peace-loving policy and Moscow's high sense of responsibility for preserving peace. With cast-iron logic, K.U. Chernenko exposed the U.S. ruling circles' purely verbal "love of peace," which has nothing in common with either peaceful dialogue or peaceful coexistence. The CPSU leader is categorical in his assessment that the key to the solution of international problems is found not in words but in deeds. The speech sets out a concrete program by adhering to which all the nuclear states could bring about the complete elimination of all types of nuclear weapons step by step and on the basis of the principle of identical security.

Poland's TRYBUNA LUDU writes: it is hard to think of any problem of importance for strengthening peace on which the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries have not put forward specific and realistic proposals in recent years. K.Y. Chernenko's speech demonstrated to the whole world once again that Moscow's policy is based on Leninist principles of peaceful coexistence and a constructive and realistic approach to the solution of the most urgent present-day problems.

Mongolia's UNEN calls K.U. Chernenko's speech a document of exceptional importance. Soviet people, the newspaper writes, do not want an arms buildup but arms reduction. At the same time, as K.U. Chernenko stated, the USSR is concerned to ensure that the security of its country and of its friends and allies is adequate. Everyone should know that the lovers of military adventures will not catch the Soviet Union unaware and that no potential aggressor can hope to avoid a crushing retaliatory strike. However, the USSR does not consider the prevailing world situation to be irreversible. Vivid confirmation of this was provided by the CPSU Central Committee general secretary's constructive new proposal on the adoption of norms of relations among nuclear powers.

In his speech in the Kremlin the CPSU Central Committee general secretary with full justification placed on the most aggressive forces of U.S. imperialism the responsibility for pursuing a policy of overt militarism, claims to world domination, opposition to progress, and violation of the people's rights and freedom, Cuba's GRANMA writes. The world has many examples of the practical application of such a policy. They include the invasion of Lebanon, the occupation of Grenada, the undeclared war against Nicaragua, threats to Syria, and finally, the transformation of Western Europe into a launchpad for U.S. nuclear missiles aimed against the USSR and its allies.

CHERNENKO SPEECH LINKED TO GOALS OF CDE

LD070013 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1545 GMT 6 Mar 84

[From "The World Today" program presented by Eduard Mnatsakanov]

[Text] The roots of detente are deep, declared Comrade Chernenko in his speech to the electorate. One proof of this is the convening of the Stockholm Conference on Confidence and Security Building Measures and Disarmament in Europe.

The 2-month round of talks at this conference is drawing to a close, and in about 10 days there will be an intermission in its work. It is perhaps still too early at the moment to talk of the results of this round, but a specific approach being adopted by the delegations of the 35 states to solving the tasks set before the conference, and certain tendencies, have been noticed. They can in brief be boiled down to the following:

The United States and its NATO allies want in every way to foist on the Stockholm conference a consideration only of narrowly technical confidence-building measures. These measures simply amount to trying, as it were, to get at our military secrets by legal means, at data on the activities of the Warsaw Pact organization's defense structure which it is impossible to get hold of through other methods. This type of approach to strengthening confidence-building measures can hardly be called constructive.

The Soviet Union and the other countries of the socialist community are showing a totally different approach in Stockholm. In working our our position, we above all proceed from realities which are in force today, and these realities are generally known.

Through the fault of the most aggressive circles of U.S. imperialism, a very dangerous situation has come about in Europe and throughout the whole world. The nuclear missiles arms race, propaganda of hatred and war, all kinds of "crusades," and finally the deployment of U.S. nuclear missiles which has started in West Europe, have brought about such a worsening of the international climate, that to talk now about some kind of technical confidence-building measures, and of all kinds of military inspections and controls, means putting the cart before the horse. First of all it is necessary to achieve a general improvement of the international climate, to solve broader, political problems, and to create at least a minimum of political trust between states, in order to clear the way towards solving narrower and more specialized issues. The proposals put forward by the USSR and its allies are precisely aimed at this. Such measures as an obligation on the part of all nuclear powers not to be the first to use nuclear weapons, the signing of a treaty on the nonuse of force in interstate relations, the creation of a nonnuclear zone, are serious landmarks in the creation of a climate of political trust. Such is our profound conviction, and it is shared by the broad masses of the public in Europe and America. This is attested to by the numerous letters and appeals sent to participants at the Stockholm conference.

CDE ROLE VIEWED AS AVERTING NEW WORLD WAR

LD062218 Moscow TASS in English 2147 GMT 6 Mar 84

[Text] Moscow March 6 TASS -- The situation at the Conference on Confidence and Security Building Measures and Disarmament in Europe is determined by factors that emerged since the beginning of the deployment of U.S. missiles on the territories of some West European countries. Shalva Sanakoyev writes in the March issue of the INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS [MEZHDUNARODNAYA ZHIZN] journal.

The talks on questions of disarmament have been disrupted through the fault of the United States and NATO. At the same time the policy of confrontation conducted by the United States and its supporters also at the Madrid meeting proved unsuccessful, the author writes. It promoted increasing exposure of the militaristic essence of the United States political course in international affairs which largely increased the concern among West European states, aggravated the contradictions between the United States and its allies in Western Europe. The mass anti-war, anti-missile movement, too, exerts the ever-growing influence on the conduct of governments of Western states.

As far as the significance of the Stockholm conference in the present complex international conditions is concerned, it must be admitted that it is called upon to play an important role in stabilizing the situation, improving the political climate in Europe and not only in Europe, the article says. What people of Europe and the world expect from the conference are not generalized statements and verbiage but concrete agreements on measures of confidence-building among states, on the creation of the necessary conditions for the development of European inter-state relations. The conference has entered the period when its participants are to chart the central direction of the further practical work in view of the tense situation that has formed in Europe and the main demand of the times -- to lower the level of military confrontation, to avert the threat of new world war.

ROGERS SAYS NATO READY FOR NUCLEAR FIRST STRIKE

LD070723 Moscow TASS in English 0646 GMT 7 Mar 84

[Text] Washington March 7 TASS -- U.S. General Bernard Rogers, NATO's supreme allied commander, Europe, speaking at hearings in the Armed Services Committee of the U.S. House of Representatives, has stated that preparedness to move on to a first use of nuclear weapons is the distinguishing feature of NATO's present military strategy.

ICAO APPROVES 'ANTI-SOVIET RESOLUTION' ON KAL

LD071033 Moscow World Service in English 1000 GMT 7 Mar 84

[Text] The Council of the International Civil Aviation Organization has followed in the wake of the United States and approved an anti-Soviet resolution in connection with the incident with the South Korean liner on 1 September of last year. An American draft was dragged through at the council meeting in Montreal. Through falsifying facts it places responsibility on the Soviet Union for the death of the crew and passengers. The council ignored the irrefutable proof presented by the Soviet delegation confirming the fact that the Boeing was sent to the Soviet airspace with a spy mission. It flewover more than two hours over the Soviet Union, including an area close to strategic facilities ignoring all warnings.

As former American intelligence men (?Tom Bernard) and (Edward Eskelsen) said, the Boeing was directed from an American RS-135 spy plane flying on a parallel course. This American provocation resulted in the death of the passengers on the Boeing airliner and was used to whip up anti-Soviet hysteria.

U.S. PLANNING 'SECOND BATCH' OF EUROMISSILES

LD061449 Moscow TASS in English 1409 GMT 6 Mar 84

[Text] Brussels March 6 TASS -- According to NATO's schedule for the deployment of American medium-range nuclear missiles in Europe the command of the U.S. Armed Forces intends to begin refitting in March a second battery in the FRG with Pershing-2 ballistic missiles. This is to be done in the Schwaebisch-Gmuend District.

The first cruise missiles have been brought to NATO's nuclear missile base at Comiso on the Italian island of Sicily. The work of making ready for use the missiles already installed in Italy is to be completed in March.

The command of the American Armed Forces in Europe is planning to begin in April to install a second batch of ground-based cruise missiles at the U.S. airbase in Greenham Common, Britain.

U.S. TEST OF MISSILE OVER CANADA, PROTEST NOTED

LD070025 Moscow in English to North America 2300 GMT 6 Mar 84

[Text] The United States on Tuesday conducted the first testing of cruise missiles over Alberta Province, Canada. Alberta's landscape resembles the Soviet territory. A strategic B-52 bomber carrying missiles took off from a United States Air Force Base at Grand Forks, North Dakota. The command of the Canadian base at Cold Lake, where cruises were tested, alerted 6,000 soldiers to an increased combat readiness and scrambled patrol helicopters, fearing the movements of protests [as heard] against turning Canada into a Pentagon proving ground. The protestors blocked the roads leading to the base. They said they will continue their struggle.

'LOUD ASSURANCES' OF PEACE EXPECTED OF U.S.

LD070047 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1800 GMT 6 Mar 84

[From the Vremya newscast; video talk by Genrikh Borovik, secretary of the USSR Union of Writers]

[Excerpts] Greetings, comrades. Much is now being said in the world about how important the stability and continuity of our peace policy is for all mankind.

The world knows only too well the value of words about love for peace that are not confirmed by deeds. For example, the experience of observing preelection battles in the United States allows one to write the scenario today of almost all the propaganda steps which will be undertaken this year by an administration wishing to remain in power. There will be new, loud assurances of its love of peace, appeals for dialogue, and normalization -- all of this, naturally, with professionally selected smiles, in a courageous voice with a slight catch in it, well-taught by special teachers. There will be a lot of this in the United States this year. [Passage indistinct]

A few days ago, you saw on the Vremya program the candidates for the U.S. Presidency swearing their devotion to peace being showered with gay multicolored balloons; and then the U.S. battleship, roaring out from its guns huge multicolored fiery clouds and the flowing of the monohued blood of Lebanese children.

Here also, one can see continuity of policy and continuity of deception.

Yesterday saw the 38th anniversary of Churchill's speech, of sorry fame, in the U.S. town of Fulton. Thirty-eight years is not a round figure for a date, but the U.S. propaganda services marked it -- perhaps not very noisily but sufficiently. That speech expressed the idea of cold war, the idea of speculating on fear, on hatred for communist dissent. Other speeches have been heard in the United States -- for example, Roosevelt's words that the United States has nothing to fear but fear itself, or the prophetic words of Eisenhower of how dangerous it was to make the interests of U.S. policy conform with the interests of its military-industrial complex.

But in the present administration, continuity in policy proceeds from Churchill's speech and not from Roosevelt's policy. The United States has every opportunity to confirm its peace-loving declarations with deeds. Then, a change could take place in Soviet-U.S. relations and in the whole international situation. We would like such a change, Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko said in his speech. It is up to Washington.

ANDRIANOV COMMENTS ON HART PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN

LD061626 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1030 GMT 6 Mar 84

[From the "International Diary" program, presented by Boris Andrianov]

[Text] Leading Western news agencies are commenting on the second victory in a row won by American Senator Gary Hart over Walter Mondale, former vice president, his chief rival in the nomination struggle for president by the Democratic Party. At the preelection meeting in Maine he received over half the votes of delegates who will support Hart at the Democratic National Convention which will take place in July and will nominate the party's official presidential candidate.

Foreign observers consider that the American voters are attracted by Hart's statements on domestic and foreign policy problems. In his ABC television interview, for instance, the senator said that our chief aim is to halt the senseless nuclear arms race and start its reduction. This is necessary to ensure the survival of mankind.

After pointing out that he is not inclined to believe statements by representatives of Washington's administration in an election year, Gary Hart said that Reagan's statements regarding his approach to disarmament and his readiness to carry on a dialogue with the Soviet Union does not inspire confidence. Speaking against the unbridled stepping-up of military preparations by Washington Senator Hart emphasized that the United States simply cannot continue spending vast sums on rearmament. This multimillion-dollar expenditure is, according to Hart, seriously undermining the economy of the United States and the well-being of the Americans.

One can, of course, agree that Gary Hart is quite correct when aiming the fire of criticism against the present U.S. President. But we must remember that Reagan himself promised Americans 4 years ago, during his preelection campaign, something like mountains of gold and was very free with peace-loving assuraces. And let us assume for a moment that the present Senator Hart will become the master of the White House. Will he then confirm by deeds his words of today? After all, Gary Hart is representing the same bourgeois party whose candidate in 1976, Jimmy Carter, became President and pursued a policy hardly different from the course of the present administration in Washington.

WAN LI SAYS USSR TALKS 'MIGHT LEAD' TO PROGRESS

PM071204 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 6 Mar 84 Second Edition p 3

[TASS report: "On China's Policy"]

[Text] Beijing March 6 -- Wan Li, deputy premier of the State Council of the People's Republic of China, was interviewed by Japanese correspondents in connection with the forthcoming visit of Japanese Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone to China. He stressed that both China and Japan have "their own specifics". Japan is an economically developed power with advanced science and technology and China is a developing state. Wan Li mentioned the possibility of broader scientific-technological and commercial-economic cooperation between the two countries and expressed confidence that the forthcoming visit of the Japanese prime minister to China would be a success.

Much of the interview was devoted to Soviet-Chinese relations. The deputy premier of the State Council said that he had had recently a long conversation in Moscow during which he said that the Chinese side was willing to improve relations with the Soviet Union on the basis of the five principles of peaceful coexistence and hoped to have a frontier of peace and friendship with it. Wan Li stressed that the fourth round of Soviet-Chinese consultations, to begin on March 12, might lead to certain progress. But China, he said, "will insist on removal of the three big obstacles" by which, as is known, Beijing means discussion of questions of the Soviet Union's relations with third countries.

Referring to relations with the United States, Wan Li expressed China's readiness to "adjust" relations with that country. He said that China was preparing to give a good reception to R. Reagan during his visit to China in April and that this visit by the American President, just as the recent visit of Chinese Premier Zhao Ziyang to the USA, would help establish "better mutual understanding" between the USA and China. He stressed that the unsettled Taiwan problem would be a great obstacle to the development of Sino-American relations. At the same time the deputy premier of the State Council of China pointed to "comparatively big opportunities" for reaching agreement on scientific and technological matters between the two countries.

Replying to questions concerning internal life in China Wan Li mentioned as the central task facing the country now economic development and raising the material and living standards of the Chinese people. To achieve this, he said, we need at home "a political situation of unity and stability" and externally a "peaceful and stable international situation". This is, he said, the cardinal starting point of Chinese foreign policy.

LI XIANNIAN ARRIVES IN PAKISTAN FOR VISIT

LD061202 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0900 GMT 6 Mar 84

[Text] Li Xiannian, president of the PRC, has arrived in Pakistan on a 4-day visit. In the course of his trip abroad he will visit also Jordan, Turkey and Nepal.

USTINOV VISITS INDIA'S NASIK AIRCRAFT FACTORY

LD061728 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 6 Mar 84

[Text] A TASS correspondent reports from Delhi:

Marshal of the Soviet Union Dmitriy Fedorovich Ustinov, member of the CPSU Central Commiteee Politburo and USSR minister of defense, who is on an official visit to India at the invitation of the Republic of India Government, and the persons accompanying him today left for a tour of the country.

The USSR minister of defense arrived in the town of Nasik, in Maharashtra State, where he visited the enterprises of the state Hindustan Aeronautics aircraft construction company. Comrade Ustinov was warmly welcomed by the collective of this, one of India's biggest industrial complexes. During his tour of the works he acquainted himself with the organization and production of aircraft, the shops and their equipment. A warm meeting was held with the enterprise's shop-floor workers and engineering-technical specialists.

Dmitriy Fedorovich Ustinov conveyed greetings and best wishes from the Soviet working people to the works collective. He made a detailed study of the labor and everyday conditions of the Indian workers and of the quality of output produced. The factory workers asked the eminent guest to convey their warmest greetings to Soviet workers. They expressed great thanks to Soviet specialists for assistance in their work. The Indian workers pointed to the important significance of Soviet-Indian friendship and cooperation for strengthening peace on earth.

Having acquainted himself with the enterprise's work, the USSR minister of defense expressed thanks for the warm welcome accorded to the Soviet guests and the friendly sentiments expressed toward the Soviet people. He noted that the enterprise is very impressive. It is equipped with highly productive equipment, it has mastered modern technological processes, and qualified specialists are operating it. The example of your works, the minister said, clearly shows the fruits of all-round cooperation between our countries. As far as Soviet-Indian relations are concerned, one may say that they have become a deeply-rooted tradition and they meet the interests of the peoples of the two countries. The durability of friendship with the Soviet Union, as Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi noted, has been thoroughly tested in difficult times and has helped to create India's national economy and strengthen the republic's independence.

Dmitriy Fedorovich Ustinov expressed confidence that Soviet-Indian cooperation will continue to widen and strengthen for the benefit of both countries' peoples, in the name of peace and progress on earth. He wished all the enterprise's workers good health, happiness and new success in the name of India's prosperity.

Comrade Ustinov arrived in the city of Madras today.

GANDHI SAYS U.S. 'IRRITATED' BY INDIA'S POLICIES

LD061158 Moscow TASS in English 1028 GMT 6 Mar 84

[Text] New York March 6 TASS -- Prime Minister Indira Gandhi of India has criticized the foreign policy of the United States and other Western countries. Although the United States talks much about democracy, she said in an interview with the American FORBES magazine, Western states back military dictatorial and authoritarian regimes in Latin America, Africa and Asia.

Characterising the United States' attitude to India, the head of the Indian Government stressed that Washington is irritated by the independent policy of her cabinet.

On the Indian Government's economic policy, Indira Gandhi pointed out that it always pursued the aim of meeting the vital needs of the masses. Despite the fact that the country's population more than doubled in 37 years after independence, India has attained self-sufficiency in food, the prime minister pointed out.

USSR DELEGATE SPEAKS AT DELHI COURTS' CONFERENCE

LD062204 Moscow TASS in English 2127 GMT 6 Mar 84

[Text] New Delhi March 6 TASS -- The supreme courts with their big authority and influence in their countries, should cut short propaganda of war by the strength of the law, said First Vice President of the Supreme Court of the USSR Sergey Gusev. He made a speech at an international conference now under way here. It is attended by representatives of supreme courts of 81 states.

The Soviet representative noted that lawyers are responsible for the destinies of progress and peace, for the realisation of ideals of social justice and are called upon to act as real humanists, by disclosing imperialism's militaristic plans.

BANGLADESH CP CENTRAL COMMITTEE OFFICIAL ARRESTED

PM061523 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 29 Feb 84 Second Edition p 5

[TASS report under the general heading: "Last News"]

[Text] Dhaka, 28 Feb -- The newspaper SANGBAD has reported that Manzuru Hasan Khan, secretary of the Communist Party of Bangladesh Central Committee, who is also one of the leaders of the Federation of Bangladesh Transport Workers, was arrested by the police yesterday at the headquarters of the Communist Party of Bangladesh.

SHULTZ 'OPENLY NEGATIVE' ON DRA SETTLEMENT

LD051637 Moscow TASS in English 1612 GMT 5 Mar 84

[Text] Moscow March 5 TASS -- TASS political analyst Askold Biryukov writes:

The U.S. Administration has again demonstrated its openly negative attitude to the idea of a political settlement of the situation around Afghanistan. Speaking at a conference of the national conservative committee for political action, the U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz clearly supported the Afghan counterrevolutionaries who entrenched themselves on the territory of Pakistan and are used as tools for waging an undeclared war against the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan. We are on the side of Afghan freedom fighters, and I believe that our efforts in the present situation are as effective as they could be, said Shultz.

The statement of the U.S. secretary of state is another confirmation of the fact that the continuing imperialist interference in the internal affairs of Afghanistan has become an official policy of the United States. It is worth recalling the outspoken statements of the U.S. Deputy Secretary of State Lawrence Eagleburger at the "forum on Afghanistan" held late last year at the Department of State. The administration has spent 300 million dollars since 1980 on financing subversive activities of counterrevolutionary gangs against Afghanistan, to say nothing of hundreds of millions of dollars that the CIA and the Pentagon deliver to them by secret channels. The Pentagon is going to spend for this purpose 125 million dollars in the current year alone.

The bandits who commit outrages on the territory of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, and who are cynically referred to in Washington as "freedom fighters" receive not only up-to-date fire arms made in the U.S. and NATO countries, but also artillery pieces, mortars and missile weapons. Apart from it, Washington encourages the Pakistani military to direct armed provocations against Afghanistan. H. Schaeffer, assistant secretary for Near Eastern and South Asian affairs, stated at a press conference that the struggle in Afghanistan would continue in the near future.

By all appearances, the real intention of Washington is not to achieve a political settlement of the situation around Afghanistan, but, on the contrary, to prevent this settlement altogether. The U.S. Administration is going out of its way to aggravate even further the situation in that part of the world. Washington needs this kind a situation, the same as it needs an explosive situation in the Middle East, the continuing war between Iraq and Iran, since it enables the U.S. to build up its military presence in this region under the pretext of protecting its "vital interests", completely disregarding the interests and sovereign rights of other countries. However, no matter how many millions of dollars Washington spends on propping up the discredited counterrevolutionary forces, it will not be able to block the advance of the Afghan people towards a better life. Bodies of people's power of Afghanistan consistently implement broad social and economic transformations which meet the vital interests of the overwhelming majority of the population. This explains why ever broad sections of the people support its policy. This is a guarantee that the imperialist intrigues against the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan will inevitably end in failure.

PAKISTAN BLOCKS RETURN OF 'THOUSANDS OF AFGHANS'

LD062016 Moscow TASS in English 1835 GMT 6 Mar 84

[Text] [No dateline as received] -- Commenting on a message to the UN secretary general which was sent by the committee of Afghan patriots, residing in Pakistan, the BAKHTAR news agency writes that after the victory of the April Revolution in Afghanistan the Pakistani authorities have been preventing thousands of Afghans from returning home. They were compelled to flee from the country as a result of threats and intimidation on the part of the counter-revolutionary gangs or under the influence of massive anti-Afghan propaganda, inspired by international reaction. It is obvious that to impel Afghans to flee from the country was an action, planned before time and prepared by the U.S. CIA, it is noted in the commentary. Both inside Afghanistan and beyond it counter-revolution pursued two main aims, BAKHTAR stresses -- to get the necessary manpower resources for conducting subversive activities against the revolutionary government and the people's system in Afghanistan and also to create a "plausible" pretext for conducting a malicious campaign of slander against the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan.

The uncontrolled and unrestrained activities of Afghan bandits on the territory of Pakistan creates a serious threat to security of the whole region, specifically India, BAKHTAR stresses. There is evidence that Pakistan uses Afghan gangs against India.

To broaden its military interference in the region and to conduct undeclared war against the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan the United States has been all the time heightening tension in the region, BAKHTAR stresses. The United States uses for the purpose also the refugee problem and seeks to prevent solution of that problem, cost what it may.

Facts show that U.S. imperialism actively uses Afghan fugitives in international terrorist activities, espionage and in undermining stability of independent states of the region, specifically India. U.S. imperialism also seeks to keep them for use at a "suitable moment" in Pakistan itself.

All this shows that imperialism and reaction do not want settlement of the Afghan refugee problem and are [word indistinct] that, the commentary stresses. The stand of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan on that issue is clear. The Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan repeatedly declared that all Afghans who were compelled to flee abroad for that or other reason can return home without any apprehensions. The revolutionary state of Afghanistan not only guarantees them life but will help as far as possible to ensure them befitting existence and employment. That right for the refugees was consolidated in the decree on general amnesty which was adopted by the Revolutionary Council of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan. The Democratic Republic of Afghanistan is ready now, too, to render all-round assistance in bringing Afghan refugees back home. It supports efforts in this direction which are undertaken by the United Nations. Unfortunately, solution of that question is hampered in every way by persons who benefit from the stay of Afghan refugees abroad. Certainly, the question of the deceived refugees, who became captives of Pakistani camps, should be considered separately from the question of imperialism's mercenaries -- ringleaders of gangs which sow death and destruction on our soil, the news agency stresses. They are by no means representatives of the refugees. The solution of the refugee problem is inseparably linked with termination of imperialism's undeclared war against the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan. Solution of that question calls for an end to interference on the part of reaction and imperialism into Afghanistan's affairs, BAKHTAR stresses.

U.S. 'SINISTER DANGER' TO INDIAN OCEAN STATES

Seeking Sites for Bases

LD061939 Moscow World Service in English 1531 GMT 6 Mar 84

[Vladimir Korolev commentary]

[Text] The commander in chief of the U.S. Armed Forces in the Pacific and the Indian Ocean areas, Admiral William Crowe, spoke during Congress hearings when military allocations were discussed there. Commentary is by Vladimir Korolev.

Judging from reports that appeared in newspapers, the admiral was laconic, yet one can see behind the short excerpts of the admiral's speech that a large-scale (?militarist) program is in the offing, which the administration is bent on carrying through. Admiral Crowe declared in particular that the United States intends to escalate its military presence, nuclear missile presence above all, in the Pacific Ocean. (?How) will this escalation look like in reality?

As it has already been reported in the press, in the next few years more than 150 ships permanently stationed in the Pacific Ocean will be equipped with 4,000 Tomahawk cruise missiles capable of carrying nuclear charges. Part of the American military strategy in the Pacific is the plan to promote further the alliance of Japan and South Korea, where American medium-range nuclear missiles will be brought as well. In order to consolidate this tripartite alliance in East Asia, a further expansion is planned of joint military exercises, which have already acquired an unprecedented scale.

The admiral's speech has thrown light once again on the reasons for the interruption of the Soviet-American talks by Washington on limiting and subsequently reducing military activities in the Indian Ocean area.

As facts indicate, the approaches of the United States and the Soviet Union to this issue are diametrically opposite. The Soviet Union supports the proposal of the non-aligned countries for making the Indian Ocean a zone of peace and to hold as soon as possible an international conference (?on this problem) under the auspices of the United Nations. The United States does not want this to happen. It harbors quite different plans. It is busy seeking sites for more military facilities in the region that will be added to the already existing 30 bases and installations in the Indian Ocean area. The United States has lately been displaying interest in the port of Chittagong in Bangladesh, the Trincomalee harbor of Sri Lanka and several ports in Pakistan. It has been reported that Washington also plans to deploy Pershing II new first-strike nuclear weapons on Pakistani territory.

The Washington leaders make believe that military preparations in the Pacific and the Indian Ocean areas are necessary as a countermeasure for checking an alleged Soviet threat. This is a deliberate lie. The Soviet Union threatens no one. Its leaders stated that on many occasions, whereas American ships and military bases in those areas are instruments for carrying out the aggressive policy of the American ruling quarters and for interfering in the affairs of many countries. Fresh evidence of this are the stepped-up activities of the American military in the Persian Gulf area. The Pentagon has taken advantage of the deteriorating Iran-Iraq conflict to send dozens of American warships to the Strait of Hormuz. Political observers point out, with reference to well-informed Pentagon sources, that there can be no doubt that if need be, Washington will use military force.

Exhibits 'Mailed Fist'

LD070743 Moscow TASS in English 0730 GMT 7 Mar 84

[Text] Moscow March 7 TASS -- TASS news analyst Vasiliy Kharkov writes:

The aircraft carrier Midway and more than 30 other United States naval ships, which have been concentrated in the Persian Gulf zone, are not just an open demonstration of the Pentagon's mailed fist in that explosive region. It is at the same time one of the components of the build-up of the United States military presence in the whole Pacific basin. The Indian Ocean, which lies at a distance of many thousands of kilometres from the American shores, has been included by Washington into a zone of "vital interests" of the United States. In other words, into a zone, where the Americans would like to establish their military-political domination. This is precisely the aim of the Pentagon's militaristic activeness, which has so much intensified recently.

Last year alone, the United States spent more than a billion dollars to modernize its main military complex Diego Garcia, which lies in the very centre of the Indian Ocean. Nuclear and chemical weapons are reported to have already been delivered there.

In Diego Garcia and in close proximity to it are also the permanent "floating depots" of heavy weapons designed for ensuring supply for the Rapid Deployment Force, which, as is known, is intended for interventionist functions. Lines of communication with the system of American bases and other military facilities, which were set up in a number of Arab and African countries and on Australia's west coast, are stretching from Diego Garcia like tentacles of a giant octopus.

The American "Central Command" (CENTCOM) operating in that region has the same status as, let us say, the U.S. command in Europe. It includes 19 independent countries of Asia and Africa into the sphere of its activities.

In the current year, all American naval ships concentrated in the Indian Ocean are equipped with nuclear capable cruise missiles. If we take into consideration the intention of the American command to deploy such missiles in some of its ground bases in that area, it is easy to see what sinister danger hangs over many states of the region.

Way back fifteen years ago the non-aligned states of the Indian Ocean basin put forward the idea of turning it into a zone of peace without foreign military bases and permanent military presence, a zone where nuclear weapons would not be deployed. In 1971 the U.N. General Assembly adopted on the proposal of these states the known declaration, which proclaimed the Indian Ocean to be a zone of peace. Practical implementation of chat declaration necessitates the convocation of an international conference. It should have long been held, but it permanently put off because of Washington's sabotage. Washington has also frustrated talks with the Soviet Union on a limitation and subsequent reduction of military activities in the Indian Ocean. It was thus demonstrated that the United States and its closest NATO allies would like to bury in general the very idea of turning the Indian Ocean into a zone of peace, as such an idea runs counter to Washington's imperial ambitions and its expansionist strategy.

PRK-THAI BORDER VISITED; SOLDIERS INTERVIEWED

PM061050 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 29 Feb 84 First Edition p 4

[Own correspondent Ye. Fedayev dispatch: "In the Foothills of the Dangrek; A Reportage From the Kampuchean Border"]

[Text] Phnom Penh -- It was so quiet that you could hear the swarms of night midges hitting the glass of the lamp which cast a dim light around the bamboo shack. We were about to spend the night 3 km from the Kampuchean-Thai border in Siemreap Province. These parts, and also the neighboring Battambang and Preah Vihear are mentioned most frequently in reports about armed provocations against People's Kampuchea.

A few months ago the Kampuchean Armed Forces carried out a series of successful operations to comb the jungles and eliminated the last nests of the anti-people rabble. The surviving bandits sought refuge on Thai territory, where they are being maintained by the forces of international reaction and primarily the United States, which are trying in every way to prevent normalization of the border situation. CIA "specialists" are helping to set up so-called refugee camps.

Having set out from the small Kampuchean border city of Sampong along Highway 68, our jeep left clouds of pungent reddish dust in its wake as it approached the positions of the 5th Battalion of the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Army. On both sides of the road charred tree stumps flashed past -- reminders of recent artillery and mortar fire from the Thai side, it was explained to me.

The village Khen Kriel... The panorama of the Dangrek mountain range opened up before us. These parts are not easily accessible. It was there that the bandits were hiding. I was at the former "base" of (Ousmat), which was at one time widely publicized as the headquarters of Sihanoukborei or "Sihanouk center". I talked to (Srey Khyen), the battalion's deputy commander. He has been awarded a combat medal for his leadership in routing the bandits.

"This base was set up in accordance with a well rehearsed pattern," (Srey) recounted. "Near the border a place in the jungle was secretly cleared and some 2,000 'refugees' were driven in. They were ringed by armed guards -- so that nobody could escape. Then came an earth bank -- this was for their own security. And all this was surrounded by permanent fortifications and minefields...How long did the battle last? Some 4 hours, but the operation took several months to prepare. Hundreds of bandits were killed or taken prisoner, and arms and documents were captured. Many peaceful inhabitants were freed."

An operational map covered the wall of the command post. (Grum Sanyn), the 29-year-old commander of the division, outlined the situation in his sector of the border:

"After (Ousmat) and other bases were routed, the surviving bandits fled. Highway 68, along which you came here, continues across the Dangrek to the small city of (Tyan) on the Thai side, and then on the Surin, right up to the Burinam-Sisaket railroad spur. It is convenient for the Pol Pot men who are hiding on the other side of the border when obtaining arms, munitions, and provisions. To the left of the highway in the Thai province of Surin there is the encampment of a 'regiment' -- as they call it -- Pol Pot men; to the right the Sihanouk men are licking their wounds. Some 20 km further along is a camp of the 'Khmer Serei' grouping -- Son Sann's men.

All these different groupings of traitors are stationed in the border zone, but always at some distance from each other. The explanation is simple: Exchanges of fire, robberies, and bickering are the main attributes of 'unity.'"

I was given the opportunity to acquaint myself with captured trophies ranging from U.S. M-16 automatic rifles to counterfeit banknotes, from grenade launchers and mines to documents containing mutually exclusive "statements" and "decrees" by the groupings which make up the so-called "coalition."

A scrap of paper yellowed with age -- a Pol Pot leaflet: "Khmers, join our powerful forces!" A color photograph of their "official" ringleader Khieu Samphan in a transparent cover. On the reverse side there are blank spaces followed by "...is a member of the army of Mr Khieu Samphan, which wages the struggle against the aggressors." This card with the picture of the "gentleman" in the dark suit and tie is pressed on every frightened peasant. "You don't have to do anything," they say to him. "We will just enter your name here. When we return, you show us the pass, and nobody will touch you." And then reports are dispatched to various masters about the "growing" detachments of Pol Pot men.

Another leaflet featured a faded blotchy violet stain and crossed submachineguns in the margins -- it was a "Khmer Serei" "document." It said: "Esteemed brothers! To free our nation from the Pol Pot oppression, to prevent the return of his regime, you, brothers, must unite your forces with the National Front headed by Marshal Son Sann." In the same bundle was the following leaflet. It was secret circular 470 of the Pol Pot staff. It orders subordinates covertly and overtly "to undermine, harm, and annihilate the 'Khmer Serei' forces." To make it more convincing, several dozen comrades-in-arms were killed at the end of last year at a base near Preah Vihear. Correspondents of the Irish newspaper THE IRISH TIMES who visited a Pol Pot base in Thailand wrote that the long cultivation of blind terror had turned these men into a sect of brutal, callous obscurantists.

This is confirmed by a Pol Pot deserter who surrendered to the Kampuchean authorities. He is 24 and his name is (Chum Vong). Toward the end, he was at the (Bannangmut) base on the other side of the border, only a few kilometers from the spot where we talked to him.

"I became a 'Khmer Rouge' soldier in April 1975. I left my parents in a village near Phnom Penh. I have not seen them since. I do not know whether they are alive. There were eight more children in the family, my three elder brothers left at the same time as I did. I do not know where they are now. Perhaps they were killed, perhaps they are wondering about in the jungle, or perhaps they are back at home...Did I kill peaceful inhabitants? No, I didn't. I always guarded installations. Many people in the camp would like to return to their parents, wives, and children as soon as possible."

We returned from the border to Samraong. Bronze-faced peasants riding humpbacked oxen or small horses with shabby manes were going about their business. Ubiquitous hordes of children were begging to have their photograph taken as a souvenir. Right by the side of the road a brisk trade in tropical foods and household utensils was going on. Yet only a year ago this road was dangerous.

On the way I talked to local inhabitants in the villages of Khtum and (Pkhotu). The situation is calm here, bandits have not been sighted for a long time, and life proceeds normally. I recalled a recent AFP report from Bangkok.

"According to information from Thai military sources," it said, "Sihanouk's army has launched an attack 10-20 km deep into Kampuchea in Siemreap Province." The dates and district mentioned in the report applied to precisely this area.

On the last evening before my departure from the western border I briefly interviewed the chief of the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Army Main Political Directorate, (Miyekh Krout). He had come to present a combat order to the division, which had been rated the best in the Kampuchean Armed Forces according to the 1983 results. There are now 5 motherland awards on its scarlet banner.

"The Khmer reactionaries now have not an inch of Kampuchean territory left to control," my interviewee said. "I want to note especially that our people repel the traitors only on their own territory, if these traitors try to penetrate it. The combat and political training of the PRK Armed Forces has improved of late. This success and the achievements in rebuilding the country played a considerable part in the fact that Kampuchea and Vietnam deened it possible to reduce the contingent of Vietnamese volunteers. The tasks in the defense of the fatherland in the places which they have left have been confidently assumed by the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Army...

"Reactionary grouping abroad are continuing to lose potential reserves, and their remaining men are demoralized," (Miyekh Krout) went on. "According to incomplete date, more than 1,000 former Pol Pot and Sihanouk men surrendered to the legitimate authorities during the second half of last year. Together with them some 4,000 refugees who had been forced to live in the special camps on Thai territory returned home."

"What can you say about the so-called 'Coalition Government'?" I asked.

"It consists of puppets who are trying to create an impression of bogus unity. Afraid that the 'alliance,' which is torn apart by bickering and insoluble contradictions is about to collapse, the forces backing it recently organized a meeting of their leaders. The statement they issued to the effect that the differences have been settled is empty talk. It is no secret that the main role in the 'Coalition' is played by the remnants of the Pol Pot butchers, who were condemned by a revolutionary tribunal of the Kampuchean people in 1979. Any assistance to them is an outrageous mockery of the memory of the 3 million people who died at their hands. It is also beyond doubt that in supporting Khmer reactionaries of every stripe and maintaining instability on the Kampuchean-Thai border, the enemies of the Kampuchean people are also pursuing another aim -- to block the trend toward dialogue between Kampuchea, Vietnam, and Laos and the ASEAN countries in the interests of establishing a zone of peace and good-neighborliness in Southeast Asia."

NURIYEV, DELEGATION RETURN FROM SFRY VISIT

PM061151 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 5 Mar 84 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Delegation Returns"]

[Text] A Soviet delegation headed by Z.N. Nuriyev, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and comprising L.B. Yermin, first deputy chairman of the RSFSR Council of Ministers, G.K.Zhuravlev, first deputy foreign trade minister, and other officials returned to Moscow from Belgrade 3 March.

D. Strbac, Yugoslav charge d'affaires ad interim in the USSR, was among the reception committee at the airport.

Agro-industrial Protocol

PM061535 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 4 Mar 84 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "At the SFRY Government's Invitation"]

[Text] Belgrade, 3 Mar -- A Soviet delegation led by Z.N. Nuriyev, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, was in Yugoslavia 27 February through 3 March at the SFRY Government's invitation.

The delegation held meetings with B. Srebric, vice president of the SFRY Federal Executive Council, and the leaders of a number of federal committees and organizations. Talks were also held with the leaders of the Socialist Republics of Serbia, Croatia, and Macedonia, and the autonomous Province of Vojvodina. The meetings and talks, which were held in a friendly and businesslike atmosphere, discussed specific questions and deepening cooperation in the sphere of the agro-industrial complex.

The delegation visited a number of agro-industrial combines and enterprises engaged in procuring, storing, and processing agricultural products and raw material, as well as machine-building plants manufacturing food industry and trade equipment.

The delegation was received by M. Planinc, president of the SFRY Federal Executive Council, and by N. Stojanovic, secretary of the LCY Central Committee Presidium.

A protocol was signed on further developing economic, scientific and technical cooperation between the USSR and the SFRY in the sphere of the agro-industrial complex. Z.N. Nuriyev signed the document for the Soviet side, B. Srebric for the Yugoslav side.

SOVIET-ROMANIAN TALKS, PROTOCOL DETAILED

PM061722 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 4 Mar 84 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Cooperation Is Developing"]

[Text] The 15th session of the Soviet-Romanian intergovernmental Commission for Economic, Scientific, and Technical Cooperation was held in Moscow 1-3 March.

Attention was focused on the elaboration of practical measures to expand and deepen economic links between the two countries in the spirit of the accords reached during this year's visit to Romania of the USSR party and government delegation headed by A.A. Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and USSR minister of foreign affairs.

A range of questions was examined relating to the work which has begun on the coordination of the USSR and Romanian state plans for 1986-1990 and in the course of which the main avenues of the development of Soviet-Romanian cooperation during the coming 5-year period will be mapped out. The procedure and timetables for drawing up long-term agreements for cooperation in individual sectors of the national economy were defined.

In accordance with the provisions of the long-term program for the development of production specialization and production sharing between the USSR and Romania through 1990, the implementation of sectorial subprograms in the sphere of the electrical equipment and chemical industries and machine building for the textile and light industries was discussed. Subprograms relating to machine building for the coal and food industries, signed in the period between the commission's sessions, were approved.

During the discussion of questions pertaining to scientific and technical cooperation attention was drawn to the enhancement of its efficiency, and measures were mapped out concerning the application of the results of joint scientific activity, notably in the sphere of the chemical, petroleum-refining, and petrochemical industries, metallurgy, machine building, construction, and agriculture.

Questions relating to the fulfillment of reciprocal obligations under trade and economic agreements were also examined.

The Soviet delegation was headed by N.V. Talyzin, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; the Romanian delegation was headed by I. Totu, deputy prime minister of the Romanian Government.

The commission's work proceeded in an atmosphere of friendship and complete mutual understanding.

GDR'S STOPH QUOTED ON ARMS TALKS, TIES WITH FRG

PM061116 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 3 Mar 84 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "In the Interests of the Peoples"]

[Text] Berlin, 2 Mar -- The GDR, together with the Soviet Union and the other Warsaw Pact states, is firmly and consistently pursuing a policy aimed at halting the arms race and averting a nuclear catastrophe, W. Stoph, member of the SED Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the GDR Council of Ministers, said here.

The proposals contained in the Prague Declaration and in the joint statement adopted at the meeting of the socialist countries' leading party and state figures on Moscow last year accord with the interests of strengthening peace and of the security of the peoples, he said. The implementation of these proposals would contribute to the relaxation of international tension and the strengthening of the principles of peaceful coexistence between states with different social systems. The GDR, W. Stoph said, advocates honest talks on limiting armaments and on disarmament on the basis of equality and identical security if the United States and NATO display a willingness to return to the situation that existed before the new U.S. missiles began to be deployed in Western Europe.

Describing relations between the GDR and FRG, the speaker stressed that the safeguarding of peace and further development of relations between the two German states are inseparable. However, it must be said that by consenting to the deployment of the new U.S. missiles, the FRG Government seriously damaged the system of European treaties, including the treaty on the principles of relations between the GDR and FRG. While advocating the development of mutually advantageous cooperation between the two countries, the GDR resolutely rejects all intrigues aimed at undermining the country's sovereignty. At the moment the creation of prerequisites for the establishment of normal relations between the German states depends on Bonn, the GDR Government head said.

GDR'S HONECKER RECEIVES FRG BUNDESTAG MEMBER

LD051941 Moscow TASS in English 1916 GMT 5 Mar 84

[Text] Berlin March 5 TASS -- Prevention of nuclear catastrophe, the struggle for consolidation of universal peace is primary aim of the GDR policy, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany, Chairman of the State Council of the GDR Erich Honecker said here today receiving chairman of the group of the Free Democratic Party in the FRG Bundestag Wolfgang Mischnik.

It is necessary to be guided by political wisdom and realism in international relations so as to channel development again into a sound route, the GDR leader said. The GDR is doing everything to ensure that war should never come from German soil again.

The sides expressed the unanimous opinion that the most vital problem of the present is an end to the arms race, its limitation and reduction. The political dialogue between the East and the West can give an important impetus for the return to the road of detente.

The Stockholm Conference on Confidence and Security Building Measures and Disarmament in Europe, as well as the resumption of the Vienna talks on the reduction of armed forces and armaments in Europe appointed for mid-March could have a positive effect on relations among European states. Erich Honecker and Wolfgang Mischnik emphasised the importance of concluding a treaty on mutual non-use of military force and the maintenance of peace relations between the Warsaw Treaty states and NATO.

The exchange of opinions on the development of relations between the GDR and the FRG was also held at the meeting. The sides declared for working intensively to normalise these relations in accordance with the treaty on the basic principles of relations between the GDR and the FRG. It is constructive, realistic steps that are meant.

POLISH EDITOR INTERVIEWED ON CULTURAL RENEWAL

PM051608 Moscow LITERATURNAYA GAZETA in Russian 29 Feb 84 p 15

[Interview with Wieslaw Rogowski, chief editor of Polish weekly ARGUMENTY, by LITERATURNAYA GAZETA special correspondent L. Pochiavalov, no place or date specified, published under the rubric "Culture Abroad": "Along the Path of Renewal"]

[Text] Pochiavalov: The Soviet people carefully follow the development of events in Poland. We cannot remain indifferent to the fate of a fraternal country. Our editorial board receives many letters from readers. They ask: What is the present political and economic situation in Poland? And so, estemmed colleague, this is the first thing we would like to ask you.

Rogowski: The Reagan administration has declared not only an ideological and political war, but also an economic war against us. It is striking at the living standards of every Pole. The Soviet Union and the other socialist states gave up fraternal support during the most difficult period. This support and also our industry's reorientation toward comprehensive long-term mutually advantageous cooperation with the frateranl socialist countries within the CEMA framework provide today the basis for the rebirth of our economy.

The 13th and 14th PZPR Central Committee Plenums were devoted to problems of the ideological struggle and economic problems. Comrade W. Jaruzelski noted the unbreakable unity of ideology and the economy and their decisive significance for improving the social climate in our country and overcoming the crisis.

The task of preserving peace is coming to the fore, as well as these domestic problems. We Poles know well the tragic cost of World War II. It cost our people 6 million lives. This is why we welcome with interest and support the USSR's peace initiatives. You see, we are also talking about our own security. And it can be guaranteed only by our close unity with the Soviet Union and the entire socialist community. This is understood in Poland. This also serves as a basis for our society's consolidation in these days which are alarming for the world.

Pochivalov: And what is the situation among the Polish intelligentsia?

Rogowski: I believe that the main thing for our Polish intelligentsia is to further strengthen its socialist forces. As you know, the opposition had quite an appreciable influence among Poland's creative intelligentsia. The counterrevolution urged writers, journalists, painters, and actors to oppose the people's rule. But times have changed now. The party is striving to play an active role among Polish creative workers. Not that I want to say that this is occurring easily or painlessly.

Pochivalov: It is well known that until quite recently the counterrevolution was trying to impair your country's creative unions and win them over. And it did manage to achieve much in this work. What is the present state of affairs? We are interested, of course, mainly in the Writers Union.

Rogowski: It has already been reported in the Soviet press that a new Writers Union was recently set up in Poland. Its founders were such famous literary workers as Halina Auderska, Bohdan Czeszko, Wojciech Zukrowski, Andrzej Wasilewski, Zbigniew Safjan, Jerzy Jesionowski, and others. They are organizing a new association of writers based on democratic principles, on real patriotism, and on readiness to serve their people's interests. About 300 literary workers immediately agreed to join the new union. This is one-half of all Poland's writers. Local organizations of the new Writers Union have already been set up in all voivodships. Until the end of January 1984 the Union admitted to its ranks, without any formality, all members of the former union, disbanded in August 1983, who declared their support for socialism. Starting in February, new members can join the union on the basis of the appropriate recommendations by creative workers' selection committees. Literary translators will not be joining the new Writers Union. They have their own professional associations.

Pochivalov: How have people in Poland reacted to the news of the establishment of the new Writers Union?

Rogowski:The enemies of socialism have reacted with malice; honest and patriotically inclined writers have reacted with approval. We hope that the majority of Polish writers will join the new union. I am convinced that the union will manage to gain their trust. There is every reason to believe this. The union statute has been adopted and numerous territorial sections and services for creative and material assistance to literary workers are being set up.

Pochivalov: What gave rise to the need to disband the former union?

Rogowski: Its leadership had taken an openly hostile position toward the state and engaged in subversive ideological work. It sought conflicts with the authorities and was not at all interested in the writers' lives, nor did it help them.

Pochivalov: And what can you say about the leaders heading the Polish antisocialist forces outside Poland's borders? What are they doing?

Rogowski: They love to proclaim their "independence." But they have been bought by the CIA, they live on its money, and they serve it. For example, Radio Free Europe's Polish section is headed by CIA agent Najder, who escaped from Poland and who hid for a long time in our country behind a Writers Union membership ticket. Kazimierz Brandys, on the other hand, has become the leader of counterrevolutionary Polish writers' circles abroad. He has even developed his own program of subversive activities against our state. Brandys is urging Polish writers to publish their works abroad, instead of at home. And he is promising dollars in exchange. Brandys is hoping to kill Polish literature in Poland itself, break off its ties with the people, and transform it into a tool of the ideological struggle waged by the imperialist West against us. But I believe that the attempts by the former Polish literary worker, who has betrayed his fatherland and is now a CIA mouthpiece, are in vain.

Pochivalov: The Polish Government and the PZPR Central Committee now attach special significance to policy in the cultural sphere and to the consolidation of contacts with cultural workers. What can you say about this policy?

Rogowski: Our party and government are now striving to consolidate all progressive forces in Polish society. And this, of course, applies to a large degree to the intelligentsia. Its ranks include not just PZPR members, but frequently ordinary patriots who want happiness for the motherland and oocupy positions of humanism. The idea that is gaining currency now is to convene in the not too distant future a congress or conference of workers of Polish socialist culture to help the country's progressive forces establish themselves in the cause of serving the motherland. We must help those who were wavering until quite recently, and at times were even in confrontation with the state, to occupy firm patriotic positions. You see, there was a period when part of the creative intelligentsia was practically engaged in "moral sabotage." Some artists, for example, refused to speak on radio or television. This period is now in the past. But this does not mean that the urgency of some problems on the cultural front has diminished.

Pochivalov: What problems exactly?

Rogowski: The problem of culture's popular spirit, for example. It is quite urgent in our country. Look at its material aspect. Book prices are rising. Even newspapers are expensive. Our weekly ARGUMENTY, for example, costs Z20. Theater tickets are very dear. The "Solidarity" leaders had no democratic program for the cultural sphere. Instead of building, they were destroying. Many plant houses of culture, clubs, and libraries were closed down on their demand. "Solidarity" refused to allocate funds for them. Our Sejm has passed a resolution on the significant expansion of cultural work among the masses. This will lay the foundations for broader affirmation of the principles of socialism in culture.

There are many things that we must now restore and further develop. The implementation of cultural policy is, of course, affected by the difficult economic situation. Cultural building requires considerable expenditure. And at present our funds must be used mainly to extricate the country from the collapse to which it was led by the counterrevolution.

Pochivalov: What is being done to correct the errors made in the past?

Rogowski: Earlier, for example, we had underestimated the subversive activity of the domestic opposition and the Western special services. The counterrevolution took advantage of this. Ideological work in that period was inadequate among writers, especially those living in the provinces. They were often altogether forgotten. The main attention was given to the Warsaw Writers' organization. The result was that the capital's literary workers were separated from those outside the capital and enjoyed what seemed to be a privileged position. This created unhealthy feelings within the the union. In actual fact, the new union is being joined by quite a few writers from the provinces.

Pochivalov: And what is the situation in Poland's other creative unions?

Rogowski: A new union has replaced the old Journalists Union. Most of the creative workers from the sphere of journalism belong to it. You already know that during the dark days when the counterrevolution was trying to take over power in the country, not all journalists' collectives managed to resist its pressure. In those days editorial boards were being influenced by the most diverse forces. A struggle is being waged now to set the situation right.

As regards other unions, the process of renewal is occurring there, too. The Polish Painters Union was disbanded in its turn. It has been replaced by separate genre unions -- painters, sculptors, graphic artists. The former Union of Polish Stage Artists has also been disbanded. It has been replaced by the union of Polish Actors headed by Prof Henryk Szletynski, and the Union of Polish Movie Makers has been re-established, headed by Janusz Majewski. In conclusion, I would like to stress that a process of renewal, which is still neither very fast nor very simple, is now occurring among Poland's creative workers.

KOSTYUKOU-LED METALLURGIST GROUP VISITS POLAND

PM061139 Moscow TRUD in Russian 4 Mar 84 p 3

[Own correspondent Yu. Vasilkov dispatch: "Metallurgists Meet"]

[Text] Warsaw, 3 Mar -- A delegation from the Central Committee of the Metallurgical Industry Workers' Trade Union headed by I.I. Kostyukov, chairman of the Central Committee, was in Poland at the invitation of the Polish Federation of Metallurgists' Trade Unions 27 February 3 March. The Soviet guests visited metallurgical enterprises in Warsaw, Katowice, and Krakow, and met with leaders of the Polish Federation of Metallurgists' Trade Unions. A joint communique was adopted outlining avenues for bilateral cooperation and also stressing the importance of coordinating efforts within the framework of the International Association of Metal Industry Workers' Trade Unions. The delegation was received at the PZPR Central Committee.

POLISH ECONOMIC DATA FOR 1983 PUBLISHED

PM061349 Moscow EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA in Russian No 10, Mar 84 (Signed to Press 27 Feb 84) p 20

[Unattributed report under the general heading: "Results, Prospects"]

[Text] The Polish weekly ZYCIE GOSPODARCZE has published a Polish Main Statistical Office [GKT] report on the fulfillment of the national economic plan in 1983.

It notes that last year the positive trends in the physical production sphere were consolidated. By comparison with 1982, the volume of industrial output has increased particularly in the processing industry, construction, and agriculture. The decline in the population's real incomes has been halted, and there has been a definite improvement in the situation on the domestic market. At the same time, difficulties have persisted which make it impossible to make more effective use of national wealth and manpower resources.

For the first time since the deep recession of 1979-1982, the national income produced rose approximately 5 percent in 1983. However, it is still almost 20 percent less than in 1978. The volume of output sold in the socialized sector of industry increased by 6.7 percent, but was 10.3 percent lower than in 1979.

Coal extraction rose by 0.9 percent, totalling 191.1 million metric tons, while the generation of electricity rose by 7 percent; steel production, 9.7 percent; the production of agricultural tractors, 4.7 percent; mineral fertilizers, 3.4 percent; and footwear, 9.7 percent. The annual targets for housing construction were overfulfilled by 6.7 percent.

A 6 percent increase in horticultural output has been registered in agriculture. State purchases of grain from the new harvest were 4.6 million metric tons, and of these over 1.4 million metric tons came from socialized sector farms. The increase in stock-raising output continues to be limited by the underdevelopment of the country's own fodder base. Exports from Poland increased by 11.1 percent compared with 1982. Imports rose 10.6 percent.

Commenting on the GKT report, the Polish weekly ZYCIE GOSPODARCZE stresses that although 1983 can be regarded as a year in which the national economy advanced, in fact we are only at the beginning of the way out of the profound crisis.

USSR-BULGARIAN MICROBIOLOGICAL SESSION ENDS

GF061530 Yerevan SOVETAKAN AYASTAN in American 18 Feb 84 p 3

[Text] The routine session of the working group for USSR-Bulgarian cooperation in the microbiological industry concluded in Yerevan.

The Soviet and Bulgarian experts reviewed the results of the research work carried out in 1983 and the outline of basic directions of scientific, technical and economic cooperation and creation of specialized production. They established the 1984-1985 work plan as well as the 1986-1990 outline for cooperation and specialization in microbiological output production.

V. Ogarkov, leader of the USSR delegation and deputy chief of the USSR Main Administration of the Microbiological Industry, said: The results of the session's work could be considered successful. Undoubtedly, the Soviet-Bulgarian cooperation in that field will serve the strengthening of scientific and production relations in accordance with the resolutions of the 26th CPSU Congress and the 12th BCP Congress.

EC 'CAPITALIST DIFFERENCES,' DILEMMA VIEWED

LD062047 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1745 GMT 6 Mar 84

[From the "International Diary" program presented by Vyacheslav Lavrentyev]

[Text] Lately, literally a day does not go by without meetings between the highest-ranking representatives of countries of the so-called West European "Common Market." One such meeting, between French President Mitterrand and British Prime Minister Thatcher, has just been held in London. I will ask our political observer Aleksandr Zholkver to comment on its results:

The feverish activity of the leaders of the West European "Ten" is linked with the approaching routine conference of heads of state and government of the Common Market countries. It is set for 19-20 March in Brussels. I will call to mind, comrades, that the previous such conference was held last December in the Greek capital, Athens, and ended in complete failure. No agreement could be reached on any issue, and not even a final communique was published.

Now, as West German Chancellor Kohl put it, the Common Market leadership's job is not to allow a repeat of the "Athenian disaster." But, as they say, things are easier said than done. The whole fact of the matter is that it is those very same irreconcilable differences which are generally a part of the capitalist world which are characteristic of the West European "Ten" as well. Inside the Common Market, there is a clash of the economic and political interests of various capitalist countries, which in no way can be reduced to a common denominator.

Thorn, the chancellor of the so-called "European Community Commission," and Dankert, chairman of the West European Parliament, are vying with each other in complaining about the absence of political will in the community. Indeed, where is this political will to be had if, in accordance with the implacable laws of capitalist competition, each Common Market country strives to uphold its own interests at the expense of its rival partners?

Let us take as an example as thorny a problem for the "Ten" as agriculture. Those West European countries in whose economy agriculture plays a more important role -- Italy, France, and the FRG, for example -- are calling for an increase in contributions to the Common Market's agrarian fund out of which agricultural production is subsidized. Industrial Britain is categorically against this, believing that its contributions to the "Ten's" purse were excessive, and for overspending last year alone, no less than $675 million should be returned to it.

As reported, the French president has arrived in London to try and persuade the British premier at least to reduce her demands a little. However, they are saying that the "Iron Lady" remains unmoved. And now, the agricultural ministers of the "Ten," having gathered in Brussels, are warning that the Common Market's chest is now emptying, and eight million West European peasants will be without any help at all.

Incidentally, it is not just a question of agriculture. Official data has just been published that growth of industrial production in the Common Market last year amounted to just 0.3 percent, but output of the means of production was reduced by over 2.5 percent. The metallurgical industry of Western Europe is in a particularly grave situation. Last year, the number of workers was reduced by nearly half a million, which has led to a further increase in unemployment. The position has been even more aggravated because the United States is waging a real "steel war" against Western Europe, blocking in every way the export of West European steel. These are just a few examples of the capitalist differences which cannot be reconciled inside the Common Market, or outside its framework by any meetings, even the most private ones or even at the highest level.

KOHL HOLDS TALKS, CONCLUDES U.S. VISIT

'Mutual Irritation'

LD070403 Moscow Television Service in Russian 2010 GMT 6 Mar 84

[From "The World Today" program presented by Eduard Mnatsakanov]

[Text] Talks have ended in Washington between U.S. President Reagan and FRG Chancellor Kohl. Speaking to journalists after these talks, Reagan did not conceal his satisfaction over the fact that deployment of U.S. nuclear missiles on FRG territory had started on schedule. At the same time, clearly trying to mislead the public of West Germany and the United States, the leaders of these countries held forth on NATO's love of peace, on their desire for talks on arms control, and so on. In reality, it is a matter of attempts to impose on our country -- the Soviet Union -- the semblance of a dialogue under cover of which deployment of U.S. missiles would continue, and the military balance in Europe would be tipped to the advantage of the North Atlantic bloc.

The trip to the United States by the head of the FRG Government was not made at the best possible time for U.S.-FRG, or more precisely, U.S.-West European, relations. Assurances of the most absolute esteem, of constant devotion for one another, continue, of course, to this day on both sides of the ocean. But this sweet sound it not capable of totally blotting out the dense wall of mutual irritation and dissatisfaction that exists.

On the Rhine they are disillusioned by the fact that Reagan has in fact shown no signs of appreciation of Bonn's fervor over the notorious additional armament. Worse still, after beginning the transfer of its nuclear missiles to Western Europe, the U.S. military decided -- and obviously not without grounds -- that now there was no need to treat its European NATO allies with excessive consideration. Bonn is complaining that representatives of the U.S. State Department and the Pentagon and many NATO organizations are simply preaching to their European colleagues without taking their views into account.

London and Paris are irritated by the unilateral military-strategic actions of Washington -- such as in Lebanon, or Grenada -- carried out behind the backs of its allies. Washington is also dissatisfied, above all by the fact that, in the White House's opinion, Europe -- that is Western Europe -- is not making a sufficient contribution to the defense of the West and is not showing the appropriate zeal in forcing the arms race at the pace and on the scale the United States would like. In this situation of reciprocal reproach and suspicion, there is more and more talk of plans for reviving the so-called European defense community, which was buried by the French National Assembly. Plans like this cannot bring anything good to Europe. They complicate the situation on the continent still further. But it is also obvious that the ever more clearly defined Paris-Bonn military axis is also opposed to U.S. domination of the Atlantic bloc. This issue, notes DPA, was another irritant during Helmut Kohl's talks in Washington.

In a word, comrades, Kohl's trip to America shed additional light on a whole range of serious contradictions in the Atlantic family -- military, political, and economic contradictions. It would be wrong, however, to draw any far-reaching conclusions from this. The so-called Europeanization of NATO is quite compatible with Washington's strategic calculations. And NATO's discord in no way dulls the overall anti-Soviet, imperialistic and aggressive direction of this militarist bloc.

Talks With Weinberger

LD070726 Moscow TASS in English 0648 GMT 7 Mar 84

[Text] Washington March 7 TASS -- Federal Chancellor Helmut Kohl of the FRG has ended his visit to the United States with talks with Pentagon chief Caspar Weinberger.

Helmut Kohl has expressed satisfaction with the results of the talks. It follows from his pronouncements that the FRG is ready, as the chancellor put it, to continue to systematically implement NATO's so-called "double-track decision" which envisages the deployment of an aggregate of 572 U.S. medium-range nuclear missiles in the territories of the FRG and West European countries.

Kohl's pronouncements which, as he made it clear, fully reflect the viewpoint of the United States Administration leave no doubt that the West does not intend to change its stand, which has led the nuclear arms control talks into a deadlock.

The problems of trade and economic relations between the United States and the FRG were also discussed in detail during Kohl's visit. But, judging by the statements of the FRG's chancellor, the sides did not manage even to soften the acutest contradictions which exist in this sphere.

Reagan 'Satisfaction' Noted

LD061214 Moscow TASS in English 1150 GMT 6 Mar 84

[Text] Washington March 6 TASS -- Talks between President Ronald Reagan and FRG Chancellor Helmut Kohl have come to a close at the White House. Judging by statements by leaders of the American Administration and press reports, main attention was paid at them to the program of deploying new American nuclear missiles in the FRG and other West European countries.

Speaking before journalists, Reagan did not conceal his satisfaction with the fact that despite protests by broad sections of the West German public the deployment of the American Pershings and cruise missiles in the FRG's territory had begun in accordance with NATO's schedule. NATO could now look forward into the future with confidence, Reagan said, stressing that North Atlantic bloc would continue augmenting its conventional and nuclear potential.

At the same time, clearly pursuing the goal of misleading the public of Western Europe and the United States, which is seriously alarmed by Washington's dangerous militarist policy, the leaders of the United States and the FRG waffled about the "peaceableness" of NATO's policy and about their "striving for talks" on arms control. In fact the matter at issue is an attempt to impose on the USSR a semblance of "dialogue" under whose cover the deployment of the American missiles and the tipping of military balance in Europe in favour of NATO would be continued.

It follows from statements by the leaders of the United States and the FRG that they would prefer talks for the sake of talks, to talks that would be filled with concrete contents. They failed to demonstrate readiness to make any constructive proposals, on the contrary, in advance of the FRG chancellor's visit the United States confirmed that it would continue to deploy its medium-range nuclear weapons in the territories of West European countries, and after the talks at the White House a highly-placed administration official said again that the United States was not going to change its position in the issue of nuclear armaments, which, as is known, has led to the breakdown of the Soviet-American talks in Geneva.

This position has the full support of the FRG Government. As an administration spokesman said, Chancellor Kohl during his meetings with Reagan had not even insisted that the United States should make new proposals concerning the Geneva talks.

INCREASED FRANCO-FRG MILITARY TIES OUTLINED

PM061150 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 4 Mar 84 Morning Edition p 4

[Own correspondent Yu.V. Kovalenko dispatch under the rubric "On a Topical Theme": "Forging an Axis?"]

[Text] Paris -- At a recent session in London of the Permanent Council of the Western European Union (WEU), France has proposed lifting the last restrictions on the production of conventional arms, including missiles, in the FRG, LE MONDE writes.

This gesture by Paris, which was "duly" as appreciated by Bonn, is regarded by observers as evidence that France intends to step up the implementation of plans to organize so-called "European defense" with the active participation of West Germany. The WEU, which unites seven European countries and in which Paris and Bonn play a decisive role, is to be its cornerstone. At the same time, France by no means counterposes "European defense" to the Atlantic alliance. It is merely a matter of strengthening "the European nucleus" within NATO, certainly not of reorganizing the whole defense structure of the North Atlantic bloc. This in particular was pointed out by French F. Mitterrand in The Hague recently, when he declared that European defense does not replace the Atlantic alliance because no military force at West Europe's disposal is capable -- according to the president's words -- "of replacing the U.S. arsenal."

The Paris press has recently been devoting much attention to questions of the expansion of Franco-West German military cooperation. It notes that this cooperation intensified noticeably after Paris gave Bonn full support over the siting of U.S. missiles on FRG territory, despite the fact that the French authorities have repeatedly admitted that the deployment of these missiles would upset the existing strategic balance.

In the sphere of strengthening defense links, France attaches great importance to the "coordination" of its military programs with those of other West European states and primarily West Germany. Special emphasis is placed on the conclusion of new bilateral defense agreements, the magazine L'EXPRESS notes. Strengthened military cooperation between the two countries is also manifested in the implementation of joint projects for the development of various types of weapons and military hardward, the rapprochement between their strategic doctines, and the establishment -- as THE WASHINGTON POST puts it -- of "an organizational basis" for the defense links between the FRG and France. The newspaper LIBERATION asks: "Is a 'Paris-Bonn axis in the making?"

Observers point out that a new component has emerged in the machinery of bilateral Franco-West German consultations. Namely joint conferences of the defense and foreign ministers to consider security questions at which Paris and Bonn discuss, among other things, questions of nuclear strategy.

Observers emphasize that the expansion of military links between France and the FRG which is being implemented both within the WEU and on a bilateral basis fits in with Washington's strategic plans to strengthen "the European flank" of NATO.

UK COUPLE EXPELLED FROM USSR FOR VIOLATING RULES

LD051255 Moscow TASS in English 1206 GMT 5 Mar 84

[Text] Leningrad March 5 TASS -- A husband and wife from Great Britain, Ingram Howard and Judith Levy, have been expelled from the Soviet Union under the order of the Soviet authorities for violating the rules of stay in the country established for foreign tourists.

The 32-year-old rabbi and the 26-year-old teacher from Newcastle first drew attention during a customs examination at Pulkovo Airport due to them having plenty of Zionist and religious literature in their cases. They were warned that the import of such books for distribution among Soviet citizens is not allowed.

Staying away from the visits to world-famous museums and cultural monuments in Leningrad, the husband and wife undertook a tour of private flats of Soviet citizens who are maintaining links with foreign Zionist centres, using for that a prepared list of addresses. Ingram Howard and Judith Levy, despite the warning, tried to pass on Zionist literature during their visits. This activity, having nothing to do with familiarization with the country, has been resolutely curbed.

The West's Zionist centres, specifically, the United Councils in Defence of Soviet Jews, National Conference in Defence of Soviet Jews (USA), Committee of 35 (Britain), have been actively using of late foreign tourists for inciting national sentiments among individual citizens and encouraging them to leave the Soviet Union, as well as for gathering tendentious and slanderous information. Only last month, ten such "tourists" in Leningrad were warned about the need to observe norms of behaviour of foreigners in the country, and four -- Maurice and Susan Schneider from London, Mier Shweiger and Michel Stric from New York -- were expelled from the Soviet Union.

ANTIMISSILE SENTIMENT GROWS IN NETHERLANDS

LD050702 Moscow TASS in English 0630 GMT 5 Mar 84

[Text] Moscow March 5 TASS -- The less time is left before June when the Dutch Government is going to make the final decision on the deployment or non-deployment of new American medium-range missiles in the Netherlands, the more heated becomes the discussion of whether it is advisable at all for that country to get involved in NATO's latest round of the arms race, Vladislav Drobkov, PRAVDA's correspondent in the Hague, reported in his paper today. The overwhelming majority of the Dutch, as public opinion polls show, are opposed to the basing of the 48 cruise missiles that are being posited on their country by overseas militarists, he said.

The Dutch, the article said, demand an end to the nuclear arms buildup in Europe and the scrapping of the weapons of mass annihilation already stockpiled there, Hundreds of Dutch municipalities have proclaimed their territories nuclear-weapons-free zones. Mass anti-war demonstrations have been held in most major cities in the Netherlands. Some 550,000 people took part in a national demonstration in The Hague late last year in protest against the installment of new missiles in Europe. Representatives of the country's leading public organizations and movements protesting against the basing of the cruise missiles recently held a meeting there and decided to stage a series of further major protest actions next May.

SWEDISH SUBMARINE 'PERISCOPE FEVER' DERIDED

PM061638 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 3 Mar 84 Morning Edition p 5

[Dispatch by own correspondent N. Ivanov under the rubric "Pertinent Notes": "No Laughing Matter"]

[Text] Helsinki -- Which one of us has not played "battleships" as a child? Indeed, even then we did not rate very highly a game which required neither skill nor resourcefulness. You would guess the square in the grid and the battleship or minesweeper would "sink" or else you would miss -- no great harm resulted, a fat cross would appear on the sheet of paper. It is no accident that I have mentioned this. However strange it may seem, this children's game has suddenly taken the fancy of their grown-up uncles with admiral's epaulets. They are playing "battleships' on a grand scale, heatedly and persistently. And although in all this time they have not succeeded in guessing the square where a mysterious submarine is hidden, their ardor has not abated. They are bombarding square after square with highly inaccurate bombs, convinced that they will win their "battle."

On reading Swedish press reports you marvel at the imagination of the organizers of the military games. The detective story has been cranked out in accordance with all the rules of the genre. It has mysterious submarines which sometimes turn into "minisubmarines." It has "frogmen" darting about along minefields. It also had to have secret agents sending radio signals.

This entire detective story has unfolded in the vicinity of Karlskrona. For the 3d week artillery has been deafening the fish, but no end to the games is in sight. This turn of events does not displease the organizers of the propaganda show. The statement by Commander in Chief of the Armed Forces L. Ljung that sooner or later they will succeed in apprehending the "Soviet submarine" in Swedish territorial waters has generated a surge of enthusiasm.

The generals have come to the admirals' aid. While three patrol ships, two minesweepers, and three helicopters are working over the quadrants of the sea on the Karlskrona seaboard, several hundred soldiers have assumed the defense. They respond to every splash of the waves with a round of machinegun fire. They sometimes use grenades. Nor have the secret service employees remained idle. The game of "battleships" undertaken by the Swedish admirals has acquired a serious dimension. Nor have their Norwegian colleagues remained aloof. They have also discovered a mysterious submarine in Tisfjord and are deafening the fish with depth charges with the same zeal as their neighbors.

You could be endlessly ironic on the subject. It would be funny if it were not so sad, as they say. Indeed, it is said to see adults carried away by such "games." We can only marvel at the persistence with which they play one game of "battleships" after another. Norwegian Admiral R. Breivik recently noted that in the past 10 years there has been a total of 226 reports of submarine appearance near Norwegian shores. The minesweepers sent to intercept them usually fished out an old boat, a truck chassis, or a raft. The Norwegian seamen's trophies include a kitchen cupboard, an inflatable mattress, and a beach umbrella. The only things missing are submarines. What is this about? Why do the Swedish and Norwegian admirals, despite the fruitlessness of their searches, continue to chase after the mysterious submarine?

You cannot call the games of "battleships" fruitless. It was noted long ago that "periscopes" usually appear off Swedish and Norwegian shores at the moment they are most needed. The admirals time the start of their "battleships" game to coincide with the start of parliamentary debates on the size of military appropriations.

That was what happened last year when the Norwegian Navy embarked on a search for a submarine in Hardanger Fjord. As was to be expected, they discovered no submarine, and the game in Hardanger Fjord cost $800,000. But the main thing was that on the wave of depth charge explosions the Defense Ministry succeeded in securing additional military appropriations.

Something similar is happening now in Sweden. While the Riksdag deputies are arguing over whether they should satisfy the Defense Ministry's demands for a 2.5 billion-kronor increase in military appropriations, the admirals have launched a game of "battleships" in Karlskrona. We can say unerringly how it will end. The mysterious submarine will not be discovered because it was never there. Do you think this will embarrass the organizers of the war games? Nothing of the kind. They have a standard explanation which works infallibly in such cases. We are failing because we are unarmed! These words could be used as an epigraph for the "sea yarns" composed by the Swedish admirals.

In connection with the events in Karlskrona the weekly 7 DAGAR recently reported that the Swedish Navy had substantially updated its arsenals. After the first round of the sea hunt the Navy hastily purchased new weapons, materiel, and tracking system. According to the Swedish weekly's reports, the Navy acquired several dozen additional helicopters equipped with depth charges, torpedoes, and radar installations. Two corvettes and four minesweepers have already been ordered and will soon swell the flotilla. They are also designed to hunt for submarines. The military are rapidly updating their surveillance and detection system and ordering new depth charges and torpedoes. But to all appearances this is only the first bill to be presented for payment.

Something else must also be mentioned. All these searches for mysterious submarines as a rule merge into a noisy anti-Soviet campaign. There is nothing surprising in the fact that at the moment when explosions are thundering in Karlskarona, in Stockholm Rear Admiral B. Stefenson, chief of Defense Staff, has launched a noisy debate arguing that "Sweden's defense is in a critical state." Adding fuel to the fire, the newspaper SVENSKA DAGBLADET has stated that in the event of a conflict between NATO and the Warsaw Pact countries, "Sweden will be occupied by Soviet troops."

Journalists have calculated that every hour a military helicopter is airborne costs the Swedish taxpayers 8,000 kronor. If we add to this the cost of the depth charges, torpedoes, and grenades detonated in the waters in the vicinity of Karlskrona, the total sum is a substantial one. Nonetheless figures can hardly express the harm caused by these "sea games." The "periscope fever," as the British Admiral I. McGeogh described the search for a submarine off Swedish shores, usually proceeds against the background of acute attacks of military hysteria and anti-Sovietism.

SOVIET-GREEK ECONOMIC COOPERATION 'WIDENING'

LD051824 Moscow TASS in English 1745 GMT 5 Mar 84

["USSR-Greece: Mutually Advantageous Cooperation" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow March 6 TASS -- TASS commentator Sergey Zinchuk writes: The recent years saw large-scale development of cooperation between the Soviet Union and Greece in a the sphere of joint construction of economic projects. A strong impetus to the strengthening of business ties between the two countries was given by the signing last year of a long-term programme of the development of bilateral economic, industrial, scientific and technical cooperation for ten years. The programme envisages the widening of the sphere of interaction of Soviet and Greek organisations, joint construction of industrial enterprises, power projects, transport facilities.

Already now the power stations built with Soviet assistance contribute to the development of Greece's energetics. These are, specifically, the Purnari Hydropower station with a capacity of 300 megawatts, Keratsini and Kardia thermal power stations with a capacity of 200 and 600 megawatts respectively. Work is conducted at a high pace at the construction of another thermal power station in Greece, Agios Dimitrios thermal power station which will have after launching the capacity of 600 megawatts.

The sides are analysing the possibilities of further widening of Soviet-Greek cooperation, specifically in such spheres as metallurgy, the chemical and light industries, agriculture. In the sphere of non-ferrous metallurgy, for instance, the sides are studying the prospects of a joint construction of an alumina plant with a productivity of 600 thousand tonnes a year. Its construction would enable Greece to use more effectively the rich deposits of bauxites on Greece's territory. At the same time, the Soviet Union will be able to purchase from Greece greater volumes of alumina for the needs of its aluminium industry.

A few days ago the sides signed a contract under which Soviet specialists will help Greek colleagues in the drawing up of a feasibility report for the construction of a gas pipeline USSR-Greece. The construction of this trunkline would enable Greece to meet considerably its needs in natural gas through purchases in the USSR.

The food industry has become a relatively new and promising field of Soviet-Greek cooperation. Foreign trade organisations of the Soviet Union and Greek companies now conduct negotiations on the possibilities of cooperation in the construction of a factory producing sparkling wines on Soviet technology in Greece. Later the USSR intends also to purchase sparkling wines produced by the factory. Economic ties between the USSR and Greece are developing successfully. Their widening is a good contribution to the strengthening of friendship of the peoples of the two countries.

USSR FRIENDSHIP GROUP LEADER ON USSR-GREEK TIES

LD062305 Moscow TASS in English 2212 GMT 6 Mar 84

[Text] Moscow, March 6 TASS -- The Soviet and Greek peoples can take pride in their great successes in the development of broad and mutually advantageous cooperation in different spheres, a TASS correspondent was told by Executive Secretary of the "USSR-Greece" Friendship Society Gennadiy Pivovarov. The 60th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations is marked in both countries these days.

The feelings of mutual sympathy and friendship that have the tradition dating back many centuries are at the basis of bilateral contacts in the political, economic and cultural spheres, reciprocal visits of governmental delegations, including those at the summit level became more regular. The volume of trade between the two countries is growing every year. The closeness of the approaches of the USSR and Greece to the problems of consolidation of peace enables them to cooperate successfully in the interests of the improvement of the international situation in Europe, Gennadiy Pivovarov said.

The "USSR-Greece" Friendship Society makes a great contribution to the development of ties between the Soviet and Greek public, Gennadiy Pivovarov said. The year 1983 was particularly fruitful in the society's activity. The days of the USSR with the participation of Soviet Belorussia were a great success in Greece. The first Soviet-Greek organized in Moscow [sentence as received]. They were attended by 160 prominent physicians and scientists-medics from Greece. A vast programme of cultural, scientific, tourist contacts will be implemented this year. Specifically, a meeting of historians is planned to be held to mark the 170th anniversary of the founding of "Philiki Etheria" Greek patriotic organization in Odessa, a city on the Soviet Black Sea coast.

Marking the 60th anniversary of good-neighbourly relations Soviet people hope that friendship and cooperation with the Greek people will continue developing, Gennadiy Pivovarov said.

LEBANESE FIGURES APPROVE ABROGATION OF AGREEMENT

LD061309 Moscow TASS in English 1217 GMT 6 Mar 84

[Text] Beirut March 6 TASS -- TASS correspondent Shamil Misirpashaev reports:

The decision taken by the Lebanese Government to cancel the agreement with Israel, which was forced on Lebanon, has met with approval among the country's public and political circles. This step is viewed here as a victory for the forces, which oppose the turning of Lebanon into an Israeli protectorate and American springboard for military adventures against the peoples of the Middle Eastern region.

Statements in this spirit have been made by prominent Lebanese political figures, members of the leadership of the National Salvation Front Sulayman Franjiyah, Rashid Karami, and representatives of political parties and organizations. Former Lebanese Prime Minister Rashid Karami voiced hope that this decision would be a "turning point on the way of Lebanon's national salvation".

On Monday a joint meeting was held of the Politbureau and Central Committee of the Kata'eb Party, which examined the decision of the government to scrap the agreement. The participants in the meeting adopted a statement in support of the actions by President al-Jumayyil directed at creating "real conditions for settling the crises in Lebanon".

The newspaper AL NIDA writes in its editorial article that the cancelling of the agreement is a victory for the Lebanese people and a blow to Washington's and Tel Aviv's plans in Lebanon. The decision of the Lebanese Government, the newspaper says, is a blow to the policy of the United States in the Middle East region, the policy of forcing on the Arabs capitulatory agreements and establishing U.S. imperialist rule in the Arab world.

According to an Israeli radio report, the United States and Israel have started "coordinating their actions" in connection with the scrapping of the Lebanese-Israeli agreement, including measures to "ensure the security of Israel's northern border."

In the course of the day yesterday Israeli aircraft twice attacked populated localities in 'Alayh area. The actions of the Israeli Airforce caused great damage to peaceful Lebanese citizens.

SYRIAN CP STATEMENT ON 17 MAY TREATY ANNULMENT

LD061637 Moscow TASS in English 1604 GMT 6 Mar 84

[Text] Damascus March 6 TASS -- The annulment of the shackling Lebanese-Israeli agreement is a strong blow at the policy of the United States and Israel which seek to establish their domination over Lebanon and to turn its territory into a [words indistinct] the Middle East, says a statement of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Syrian Communist Party circulated here. The document says that the Lebanese people have achieved the annulment of the inequitable agreement due to the struggle and unity of all National Patriotic Forces, solidarity of broad circles of the progressive Arab public with the Lebanese people, coordination with Syria and support by the Soviet Union and other socialist countries.

Events show that the agreement imposed by Americans and Israelis at gunpoint can be liquidated if opposed by a single front. Its annulment, it is noted further, is an effective answer to the attempts of the United States and Israel to impose by force the capitulatory plans in the Middle East and to disunite Arab peoples.

The Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Syrian Communist Party stresses that despite the success achieved, there is a danger of a new armed aggression by Washington and Tel Aviv against the Lebanese National Patriotic Forces and Syrian forces staying in Lebanon. In this connection the Political Bureau urges the Lebanese people and its National Patriotic Forces to really the unity of their ranks and strengthen ties with the Arab national liberation movement, to develop further the relations of friendship and cooperation with the Soviet Union, the main ally of Arab peoples in the struggle for freedom, independence, national sovereignty, against the imperialist aggression.

Touching upon the Palestinian problem, the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Syrian Communist Party stresses that the Palestine Liberation Organization is the sole lawful representative of the Arab people of Palestine and urges all sections of the Palestinian revolution to adhere strictly to the decisions of the National Council of Palestine, to do everything to implement these decisions.

It made a call for the ending of the Iran-Iraq war contradicting the interests of the peoples of the two countries. Settlement of problems between these states in a peaceful way will be a blow at the interests of imperialism, Zionism, and reaction, the statement says. It condemns resolutely the attempts of U.S. imperialism to interfere in the affairs of Persian Gulf countries under the pretext of the defence of its "strategic interests."

The leadership of the Syrian Communist Party condemned the terror unleashed by the Iranian authorities against Iran's Tudeh Party. The arrests and persecution of members of the Tudeh Party are a gross violation of democratic principles and contradict the interests of the Iranian people, the statement says.

LEBANON CONFERENCE TO RESUME IN LAUSANNE 12 MARCH

LD062003 Moscow TASS in English 2037 GMT 6 Mar 84

[Text] Geneva March 6 TASS -- The Department of Foreign Affairs of Switzerland today officially reaffirmed that the second stage of the Conference on National Reconciliation in Lebanon is to open in Lausanne on March 12. It is to be attended by representatives of conflicting Lebanese groupings and also Syria and Saudi Arabia who will discuss ways of settlement of the political situation in Lebanon.

U.S. ROLE IN LEBANON, IRAN-IRAQ CONFLICT HIT

PM061058 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 4 Mar 84 Second Edition p 4

["Military-Political Review" by international observer V. Pustov: "Washington's Gamble on Conflicts"]

[Text] As has been the case in the past, the latest reports of combat operations on the Iran-Iraq front are very contradictory.

The Iranian command maintains that the offensive operations which its troops began in February are meeting with success, that hundreds of square kilometers of enemy territory have been captured, and that the strategically important 'Amara-Basra Highway has been cut. The Iraqi command refutes all this, emphasizing that the Iranians have been beaten back to their initial positions as a result of the counterattacks undertaken by its troops.

Without going into the details of the course of the combat operations reported in the war communiques, I should, however, point to a number of indisputable features characteristic of the present stage of the Iran-Iraq conflict. On the front, almost half a million troops on each side are confronting one another. At the same time, it is thought that Iran has not yet committed all its reserves to combat action, and so the likelihood of new offensive operations by Iran cannot be ruled out.

The present fighting, in the opinion of foreign military specialists, is the fiercest since the very beginning of the war in the fall of 1980. The sides' losses, particularly among the attacking Iranian troops, are estimated at tens of thousands killed and still more injured. Nevertheless, there are still no reliable data on substantial changes to the front line, which primarily passes in along the border and in just a few sectors -- particularly to the east of Basra -- not far from the Iraqi border.

Basra, 'Amara, Zurbatiyah, Khanaqin, Ba'qubah, and other cities in Iraq, as well as cities near the border and deep inside Iranian territory, are still being subjected to air strikes and artillery shelling. Hitherto, it is true, the sides had more or less refrained from making massive strikes on major oil installations. Therefore, the heavy strikes recently undertaken by Iraqi aircraft against the oil port on Iran's Khark Island and the port of Bandar Khomeyni, as a result of which several tankers and other ships were sunk, are considered something new in the development of combat operations.

These actions attest to a change which is taking shape in the nature of combat operations. Tehran had earlier declared that it would blockade the Strait of Hormuz, which links the Persian Gulf with the Indian Ocean, if the passage of its ships were threatened or if the United States interfered in the Iran-Iraq conflict. The Iranian leadership has now announced its intention to blockade the strait.

Until recently the events connected with the war between Iran and Iraq were relegated to the background, as it were, in the Western press. It was sometimes even called the "forgotten war." Now people in the West, and particularly in the United States, are shouting loudly about the Iran-Iraq conflict and writing a great deal with a view, in particular, to pushing into the shadows and forgetting against its background the obvious failure of Washington's hegemonist Near East policy and Tel Aviv's expansionist course. They have failed to bring to their knees the Lebanese people, who are intensifying the struggle to annul the shackling agreement with Israel of 17 May 1983, which was imposed by the American Administration. The United States was unable to get its way by trying to supplement or replace the Israeli occupiers with its own troops who landed in Lebanon 18 months ago under the signboard of the "Multinational Force." The American occupiers sowed death and destruction and turned Lebanon into a test site for new means and methods of conducting punitive operations against national liberation forces.

Addressing the election meeting of voters of Moscow's Kuybyshevskiy Electoral Okrug, Comrade K.U. Chernenko named the invasion of Lebanon among the examples attesting to the sharp activation of the policy of American imperialism's most aggressive forces -- a policy of overt militarism, pretensions to world supremacy, resistance to progress, and violation of the peoples' rights and freedom.

Evidence of the collapse of the White House's imperial ambitions was provided by its decision to redeploy the American Marines from Beirut to a safer place -- to the ships of the U.S. 6th Fleet concentrated off the Lebanese coast. However, observers warn that this redeployment might prove to be just a prelude to the still more intensive use of the American Navy and deck aircraft against Lebanon. The likelihood of continued brigandage can be perceived in a number of facts: The transfer to the Marines to the ships was accompanied by a drumfire of ship-borne artillery, including from the battleship New Jersey, against the positions of Lebanon's National Patriotic Forces and Syrian troops; a State Department spokesman declared that "the rules for the use of artillery fire" by Americans against targets in Lebanon "remain as before"; American aircraft are continuing provocative reconnaissance flights over Beirut and other parts of the country. The Israeli aggressor, who is in "strategic alliance" with the United States, is continuing to occupy a number of regions of Lebanon.

American specialists are now proposing to take into account for the future the purely military reasons for the failure of the U.S. Armed Forces' mission in Lebanon. It is pointed out, for example, that the Marines in Beirut were subjected to too great a danger, as evidenced by the deaths of almost 300 American soldiers and officers. The shelling with the 16-inch guns of the battleship New Jersey proved far less effective than the command had hoped. The dive-bombing was also not effective enough as a result of the increased accuracy of enemy air defense facilities. When American aircraft dropped to a height of 3,000 feet (approximately 1,000 meters) to hit the targets more reliably, Syrian anti-aircraft gunners immediately shot down two aircraft with missiles and damaged a third.

Thus, as Britain's FINANCIAL TIMES emphasizes, "President Reagan's political aims in Lebanon have collapsed like a house of cards." Another lesson is no less important: The graphic demonstration that U.S. imperialism is far from omnipotent and that freedom-loving peoples are capable of dealing it a proper rebuff has dealt a palpable blow to its "authority" in Arab countries with conservative regimes, including those countries on which Washington is gambling by seeking to turn them, along with Israel, into champions of its adventurist policy.

Uner the conditions which have been created, the United States has decided to take the path of further building up its military might and escalating war preparations not only in the eastern Mediterranean but also in the Persian Gulf zone. Precisely the present exacerbation of the Iran-Iraq conflict has been chosen as the pretext. It is generally recognized that Washington is trying in that region to compensate at least somehow for its political and military errors in Lebanon.

More than 30 U.S. warships with amphibious landing forces on board are now concentrated in the northern part of the Indian Ocean.

Of these, five ships are in the Persian Gulf, while the majority of the others, including the aircraft carrier Midway, are in the immediate vicinity of the Strait of Hormuz, off the southern coasts of Iran and the Arabian Peninsula. American AWACS aircraft based in Saudi Arabia conduct regular surveillance of that region.

Thus, the Gulf countries, and Iran above all, find themselves in the sights of an American naval armada and also of British ships. A purely formal pretext is being sought for armed interference. The possibility of an Iranian blockade of the Strait of Hormuz -- which, it is said, will jeopardize the "vital interests" of the United States and the entire West -- is named as such a pretext. The spurious nature of the references to the "need to defend" oil supply lines is acknowledged even by the Western press. According to oil companies' assessments, London's THE DAILY TELEGRAPH writes, "the world can survive a blockade of the Strait of Hormuz without any crisis," since only 20 percent of the oil that the West needs is currently transported from Persian Gulf countries.

The blockade, as we see, has still not been established, and in any case it would not be so dangerous for the West. However, Washington is stepping up its stream of threats and is also undertaking direct, provocative actions. Thus, the American destroyer Lawrence, which was near the Strait of Hormuz, fired "warning shots" at an "unidentified ship" and an Iranian patrol aircraft. The former, it turns out, ventured to "pass too close," while the latter "flew too low." The American command is displaying imperial arrogance not somewhere at home but off foreign shores many thousands of miles away from the United States.

The Americans' reasoning about their reaction if the Strait of Hormuz were to be mined also sounds sinister. Minesweepers are needed to clear mines, they declare. They also need air cover. The aircraft providing that cover and also the ships need bases, and not just anywhere but in the region of the Gulf itself. Therefore, according to a report in THE WALL STREET JOURNAL, Washington emissaries are already making attempts to "resolve such problems before any crisis arises." In other words, there is no blockade yet, but give the Pentagon new military bridgeheads right now. Thus, Washington is trying not only to build up its forces in the region but also to draw Arab countries into the militarist venture.

The pernicious consequences of the Iran-Iraq conflict are making themselves felt far beyond the two countries and the Persian Gulf zone. It is not just that this is now the 4th year that Iran and Iraq have been senselessly draining their human and material resources. Both states are virtually dropping out of the common front of the anti-imperialist struggle. The Arab world waging the struggle against Israeli aggression has found itself disunited: Certain countries side with Iraq, and others with Iran.

The senseless bloodshed is continuing and intensifying as a result of the backstage intrigues of NATO countries, primarily the United States. They are getting rich out of supplying weapons and military hardware to the belligerents. Having formally declared in embargo, the United States, operating through Israel and South Korea and sometimes even even directly, according to foreign press data, sells Iran weapons worth hundreds of millions of dollars every year.

The Pentagon is using the Iran-Iraq conflict to increase its military presence not only in the Persian Gulf zone but also far beyond it. As was pointed out at the routine CPSU Central Committee Politburo session, military-political tension is increasing in the Indian Ocean region as a result of the militarist actions of the United States and some of its NATO allies.

There, as in other parts of the world, Washington uses any opportunity to aggravate conflicts and to provoke crisis situations, perceiving in them conditions for strengthening its military-strategic positions and realizing its global hegemonist designs.

U.S. PUSHING FOR 'DISMEMBERMENT' OF LEBANON

LD061422 Moscow TASS in English 1254 GMT 6 Mar 84

[Text] Washington March 6 TASS -- Commenting on the cancellation by the Government of Lebanon of the agreement with Israel, Larry Speakes, deputy White House press secretary, said that the long-term aims of the USA in Lebanon remain unchanged. John Hughes, a State Department spokesman, said for his part that American warships will stay off the Lebanese shores. Those who have denounced the agreement, he said, obviously encouraging Israel to continue the occupation, should take upon themselves responsibility for the search of an alternative negotiation formula to ensure withdrawal of Israeli troops. But what question of "alternative" can there be when there exist concrete resolutions of the Security Council demanding total and unconditional withdrawal of Israeli aggressor troops from Lebanese territory, resolutions for which the United States also voted.

Obviously Washington is devoting, as before, its efforts not to normalizing the situation in Lebanon and restoring its sovereignty. The USA is pursuing its own selfish aims and wants independent states of the region to obey imperialist and Zionist diktat and seeks to strengthen Pentagon's military presence in the eastern Mediterranean. As a matter of fact, the U.S. Administration is pushing things toward a dismemberment of Lebanon even in disregard of the opinion of its own West Europena NATO allies.

TUDEH PARTY STATEMENT ON IRANIAN EXECUTIONS

PM061948 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 7 Mar 84 First Edition p 8

[Unattributed "Statement of the Tudeh Party of Iran Central Committee"]

[Text] In connection with the execution in Iran of 10 members of the Tudeh Party of Iran from among patriotically-minded servicemen and civilians convicted by the Iranian authorities on trumped-up charges leveled against them, the Tudeh Party of Iran Central Committee has published a statement which says, in particular:

The repressive organs of Iran have committed a grave crime by executing 10 members of the Tudeh Party of Iran, including four patriotically-minded officers.

The trials, during which 87 persons were sented to prison terms exceeding a total of 700 years and death sentences were passed, confirmed, and carried out on 10 members of the Tudeh Party of Iran, fully contradict both the country's existing legislation of legal procedures and generally recognized standards of international law.

The noble people who were so mercilessly executed, the document points out, devoted their entire glorious lives to the struggle for the freedom and independence of the country, for the liberation of the oppressed. all of them during the illegal trial strongly rejected the unfounded, absurd charges of espionage and anti-state activities. Holding their heads high, they declared that they had been impelled to become involved in the political struggle only by their striving to defend the gains of the revolution, meeting the interests of the people.

Under conditions where our long-suffering motherland is going through one of the most complicated periods in its history and society is experiencing tremendous social and economic difficulties, while the country is facing an open threat of military aggression on the part of American imperialism. repressions have been launched against the Tudeh Party of Iran, which is the most experienced and active defender of the interests of the working people, and a propaganda campaign has been stepped up against the Soviet Union -- our neighbor which represents the most mighty bulwark of the world's progressive forces. This in effect signifies the creation of favorable conditions for the activities of counterrevolution and for the restoration in the country of the positions of imperialism led by the imperialism of the United States.

In conclusion, the Tudeh Party of Iran issues a call on all democratic and progressive forces of the world to raise their voice in protest against the repressions to which the patriots, fighting for independence, freedom, and social justice, and being subjected to in Iran.

AL-ASAD ACCEPTS SYRIAN CABINET RESIGNATION

LD070539 Moscow TASS in English 0525 GMT 7 Mar 84

[Text] Damascus March 7 TASS -- Prime Minister 'Abd ar-Ra'uf al-Kasm of Syria has stated the resignation of the country's government. The SANA news agency reports that Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad has accepted the cabinet's resignation and instructed 'Abd ar-Ra'uf al-Kasm to form a new government of the country.

A decision on the resignation of the cabinet of ministers, the report points out, was taken at a meeting of the regional Arab Socialist Renaissance Party several days ago.

SYRIAN SPORTS FIGURE WELCOMES USSR 1987 AID

LD051229 Moscow TASS in English 1133 GMT 5 Mar 84

[Text] Damascus March 5 TASS -- The Soviet sports delegation's visit to Syria is an important event in the country's social and sports life, Sa'id Hamadi, member of the regional leadership of the Arab Socialst Renaissance Party, has declared during a meeting with Vice Chairman of the USSR's Sports Committee Viktor Ivonin. The visit not only attests to the broad scope of Soviet-Syrian cooperation in all areas, but also to the immense attention paid by the Syrian Government to questions of developing physical culture and sport, Hamadi pointed out.

Stressing that Syria is the organizer of the 10th Mediterranean Games to be held in 1987, the Syrian sports figure said that cooperation with the Soviet Union will help Syrian athletes get in better form for the competitions, and the country for their holding, the more so, has vast experience in that [sentence as received]

Hamadi during the coversation with the Soviet sports delegation highly assessed friendship and cooperation between the Soviet Union and Syria and declared that this is the best support for the Syrian people's struggle against the hostile machinations of the forces of imperialism, Zionism, and reaction.

CRITICISM OF U.S.-SUDAN MILITARY EXCHANGES

LD062044 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1530 GMT 6 Mar 84

[From the "Window on the Arab World," program by Vladimir Bilyal[illegible]]

[Text] The Iranian-Iraqi dispute is one of the acute military disputes which the imperialists and Zionists are fanning in order to weaken the Arabs and make them yield to their control. This is also the aim of the Israeli aggression and the disputes in Western Sahara and Chad, in which the imperialists are fanning the flames. The imperialists have been recently exerting their efforts to find another hotbed of tension in northeast Africa.

According to Khartoum reports, a huge consignment of weapons and ammunition from the United States will be transported in the next few days to Sudan through an airbridge especially established for this purpose. An agreement on this was reached during the visit by 'Umar Muhammad at-Tayyib, first vice president of Sudan, to the United States last week. Following his return to Khartoum, he declared that these weapons are necessary to ensure the security of Sudan, which is being threatened by outside forces. The Sudanese official did not say at this time who these outside forces are. However, in the past, the Sudanese leaders have frequently accused, without any foundation, the Libyan Jamahiriyah, Ethiopia, and even the Soviet Union of hostile activity. As for the imperialists, they are skillfully exploiting the attitude of the Sudanese leadership in order to make Sudan fall deeper into their nets.

It is recalled that the so-called U.S. Rapid Deployment Force was trained on Sudanese territory to carry out military operations against Arabs. Sudan had allowed the United States to use its military installations in the event of emergencies. The regrouping of the forces of the U.S. agent, Hissein Habre, took place in Sudan for the purpose of attacking the capital of Chad. Habre later seized power in Ndjamena.

Sudan is one of the two Arab countries that openly and publicly supported the separate course of Egyptian President as-Sadat and the infamous Camp David deal.

Now that the United States has decided to extensively arm Sudan, for which the airbridge will be used, will Washington drive the Sudanese regime into an outside political adventure to achieve its narrow selfish ends? At any rate, the extensive arming of the Sudan by the United States does not serve the interests of the Sudanese people themselves nor the cause of peace and stability in northeast Africa.

SOVIET TRADE DELEGATION ARRIVES IN ADEN

GF021848 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 2 Mar 84

[Text] A delegation from the Soviet Ministry of Foreign Trade -- headed by Comrade Rudolf Makarov, deputy minister of foreign trade, arrived in Aden this afternoon on a working visit to the PDRY that will last several days. In a statement to ADEN NEWS AGENCY, Comrade Makarov said that he would hold talks with officials at the Ministry of Trade and Supply on bilateral relations dealing with foreign trade and trade exchange between the two friendly countries. He said that a trade protocol will be signed on trade exchange of commodities for 1984 in accordance with an agreement signed between the two countries in 1981.

The delegation was received by Brother 'Abdallah Sa'id Salim al-Qitiri, deputy minister of trade and supply, and a number of officials in the ministry in addition to the Soviet ambassador in Aden.

ANNIVERSARY OF COOPERATION WITH ALGERIA MARKED

PM051153 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 24 Feb 84 First Edition p 5

[Report by own correspondent S. Filatov under the general heading: "Cooperation Orbits"]

[Text] Algiers, 23 Feb -- A ceremony took place yesterday in Bourmerdas celebrating the 20th anniversary of economic, scientific, technical, and cultural cooperation between the USSR and Algeria.

The Soviet Union was one of the first countries to embark on extensive cooperation with Algeria immediately after the country gained its independence. "The signing of the first Soviet-Algerian agreements was a significant milestone in the history of relations between the two countries," Algerian Minister of Commerce A. Khellef said at the meeting. He also said that Algeria assesses the period since then with sincere satisfaction, and he confirmed the wish to continue expanding ties with the Soviet Union, which have "very promising prospects."

The Algerian people's creative activity has always had the backing of the Soviet Union, Ya.P. Ryabov, chairman of the State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations, noted in his speech. Our relations are successfully developing on the basis of mutual advantage and mutual interests in various spheres. The numerous projects of Soviet-Algerian cooperation are serving the Algerian people in the interests of developing the national economy. Many Soviet specialists are working in Algeria, assisting in the training of national cadres, in the development of health care, and in other spheres. Great significance attaches to the friendship potential that is being created in relations between Soviet and Algerian specialists, in their joint work.

BRIEFS

TRADE PACT WITH PDRY -- A protocol was signed here today on the exchange of trade between the Soviet Union and Democratic Yemen for 1984. The document provides for the delivery of petroleum products, cement, and electrical equipment, to the Peoples Democratic Republic of Yemen. The PDRY side will supply the USSR with goods traditionally exported by it. [Text] [Moscow Television Service in Russian 1628 GMT 5 Mar 84 LD]

MOZAMBIQUE RESISTANCE GROUP CHIEF'S U.S. VISIT

LD061527 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1030 GMT 6 Mar 84

[Text] A chieftain [glavar] of the so-called Mozambique National Resistance, (Fernandes), is visiting the United States. He is asking U.S. ruling circles to increase their military and other assistance to his group, which he is trying to portray with the help of U.S. propaganda as a heroic nationalist organization purportedly enjoying wide support in Mozambique. In reality this organization is not at all heroic but openly terrorist. It has never been a Mozambique organization except in name; it has always served the interests of external forces hostile to the people of Mozambique. A few words about the emergence of this Mozambique National Resistance:

It was set up in 1976 by the secret services of racist Rhodesia assisted by former agents of PIDE, the Portuguese secret police, and also with the consent of RSA secret services, for the purpose of conducting subversive activities against the People's Republic of Mozambique. After the fall of the racist regime in Salisbury and the proclamation of the Republic of Zimbabwe, the movement's terrorist bases were transferred to the RSA. It is there, in special camps in Transvaal province, that they are being trained in the science of destruction and murder which they then apply on Mozambique territory. Wherever the organization's cut-throats appear, they leave behind a trail of plundered villages, blown-up brigades and power lines, and burning trains and buses. They cut a trail of death and mutilation among the civilian population.

The actions of the counterrevolutionary gangs designed to scare the population and destablize the situation in Mozambique are coordinated by Colonel (Van Nikkerk), career officer in RSA intelligence.

It is appropriate to recall that a few years ago, when the Mozambique security forces uncovered an antigovernment plot, it became known that the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency was also involved in the subversive activities against Mozambique. The CIA was supplying the terrorist elements with weapons, explosives, and subversive literature. Washington now gives a warm welcome to the chieftain from the terrorist group and listens favorably to his invocations for a firmer policy toward Mozambique. Washington, like Pretoria, has long been displeased with the course of the People's Republic of Mozambique toward building a society free from exploitation. The U.S. Administration is clearly determined to continue -- conniving with the RSA and aided by terrorist gangs -- the subversive activities against independent Mozambique, with the objective of bringing down the legitimate progressive government in that country and replacing it with a pro-Western puppet regime.

ETHIOPIA DENIES PLAN TO USE NERVE GAS IN ERITREA

EA061853 Moscow in Amharic to Ethiopia 1530 GMT 6 Mar 84

[Text] An Ethiopian Foreign Ministry statement has dismissed as baseless and without any tangible evidence a report from the Somali Government that Ethiopian forces are planning to use nerve gas on the Eritrean secessionist bandits. The Foreign Ministry statement also refuted rumors that the Port of Assab was temporarily closed for the purpose of unloading chemical weapons.

The statement pointed out that Ethiopia does not have and never has had any nerve gas nor any napalm bombs and added that those who are interested in the matter can come and see for themselves.

SANDINIST LEADER CITED ON CIA-AIDED SABOTAGE

PM052114 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 4 Mar 84 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Aggressive Actions"]

[Text] Managua, 3 Mar -- The Reagan administration has embarked on a very dangerous stage of escalating the aggression against Nicaragua, Daniel Ortega, member of the National Leadership of the Sandinist National Liberation Front and coordinator of the State Council of the Republic's Government of National Reconstruction, declared here.

With every passing day, he continued, the United States is broadening the secret war against our people -- a war which is now assuming new forms. The Pentagon has begun mining Nicaragua's ports with the help of CIA mercenaries. Specially trained saboteurs made their first strike against the Nicaraguan port of El Bluff, where two fishing boats were blown up by mines laid by them.

The Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry has sent the American Administration a protest note condemning the new aggressive U.S. actions. The criminal sabotage in the port of El Bluff and the CIA mercenaries' recent statement that they have "mined" the Nicaraguan port of Corinto graphically attest to Washington's intention to set up a military blockade of Nicaragua and to beef up its aggression against the Republic to an unprecendented scale, the note states.

DE LA MADRID ON KISSINGER COMMISSION, USSR TIES

PM061135 [Editorial Report] Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian on 5 March 1984 in its Morning Edition carries on page 5 a 1,700-word maiden dispatch by Silantyev, "Our new correspondent for the Latin American countries," under the heading "Mexico: Problems and Hopes." Silantyev outlines Mexican economic problems in recent years and quotes local criticism of U.S. import restrictions on Mexican products, especially steel. He reports on a press conference with Mexican President De la Madrid at which, regarding the Central American situation, the president "stated his opposition to the recommendations of the report of the U.S. commission headed by H. Kissinger." Silantyev goes on to note: "Replying to a question from Soviet journalists, Miguel De la Madrid stated that friendly relations based on a common desire to strengthen peace, to attain general disarmament and international stability and security, and to expand economic cooperation exist between Mexico and the Soviet Union."

VOLCANOLOGY SHIP TO MEXICO FOR GEOTHERMAL RESEARCH

PM051148 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 24 Feb 84 Morning Edition p 6

[Interview with V. Sugrobov, deputy director of the Institute of Volcanology, by O. Dzyuba under the rubric "IZVESTIYA Calling You": "'Thermometer' on the Ocean Floor"]

[Text] Seven years ago the Vulkanology, scientific research ship of the Institute of Volcanology of the USSR Academy of Sciences Far East Scientific Center, set out on its maiden voyage from the wharves of Seroglazka, a suburb of Petropavlovsk-Kachatskiy. In a few days' time this floating laboratory specializing in the study of underwater volcanoes -- the only one in the world -- will once again leave Kamchatka. V. Sugrobob, deputy director of the Institute of Volcanology and voyage chief, speaks about the new expedition.

Question: Viktor Mikhaylovich, where will the 20th 'jubilee' expedition be working?

Answer: We have a long voyage ahead. The expedition will cross the ocean from west to east without putting in to ports. The Vulkanolog will drop anchor off the coasts of Mexico for the first time. We are to be joined by Mexican geophysicists. We will conduct geothermal research along the Middle America Trench. The chief task of the voyage is to study the natural laws of the thermal flow in that region coming from the depths of the planet.

Question: What is it about that part of the ocean that attracts specialists?

Answer: According to the theory, a zone where the ocean plate meets the continental plate is to observed off the coasts of Mexico. There is a similar process near Kamchatka. We will study the conditions of the plates' meeting point. It is a question, in the final analysis, of developing a model of the thermal field of that transition zone.

Mexico is famous for its volcanoes. Many of that country's fire-spitting mountains are located along a "neovolcanic belt" which extend not only on land but also along the ocean floor. We hope that the research into it will help to decipher some natural laws of volcanism. The itinerary of the voyage includes trips to volcanoes on land.

Question: Only an infinitesimal proportion of the heat in the depths of the earth reaches the ocean floor. Evidently only highly sensitive instruments are capable of recording an increase in temperature?

Answer: Indeed, it is not easy to conduct research on the thermal flow in the ocean. However, we will be able to obtain the necessary data with the help of thermal probes -- instruments that are inserted into the floor. We already have experience of such research. At the same time, we will tackle geophysical research.

Question: When will the expedition return to Petropavlovsk-Kamchatskiy?

Answer: The Vulkanolog will enter Avachinskaya Bay only in the middle of the summer. The voyage will last approximately 4 months and will be one of our longest expeditions.

CHERNENKO ADDRESSES CENTRAL COMMITTEE WORKERS

LD061713 Moscow TASS in English 1704 GMT 6 Mar 84

[Text] Moscow March 6 TASS -- A meeting of the General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Konstantin Chernenko with members of the apparatus of the Central Committee of the party was held today.

Taking part in the meeting were members of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev, Grigory Romanov, Mikhail Solomentsev, alternate members of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee Vladimir Dolgikh, Boris Ponomarev, secretaries of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Zimyanin, Yegor Ligachev, Nikolay Ryzhkov.

Konstantin Chernenko delivered a lengthy speech in which he set out the most important tasks of the party committees in the light of the decisions of the 26th party congress and the subsequent plenary meeting of the CPSU Central Committee.

The February (1984) plenary meeting of the CPSU Central Committee, the elections to the USSR Supreme Soviet, Konstantin Chernenko said, strikingly showed the inseparable unity of the party and the people, the monolithic cohesion of the party ranks. The main manifestation of this unity is a firm resolve not only to continue advancing along the charted course but also to develop it creatively and daringly. Such are the Leninist traditions of our party. This is the meaning of the continuity in the policy.

Implementing the course worked out collectively, the CPSU Central Committee directs the efforts of the party and the people at enhancing the efficiency of the national economy at the improvement of ideological work, intensification of all the processes of the perfection of mature socialism, further consolidation of the Soviet Union's positions in the world arena.

It was stressed that the supreme bodies of the party and state will give the closest of attention as ever to the development of the economy. It is now important to work in such a way as to ensure not only the fulfillment but also overfulfillment of the targets set for 1984. For this purpose it is necessary to use every potentiality of the national economy, to overcome promptly the lagging behind wherever it occurs. It is necessary to enhance steadily organization and discipline, to use effectively the main reserves -- the speeding up the scientific and technological process, to ensure the operation of production facilities at full capacity, to strengthen the regime of economy everywhere.

The fulfilment of the Food and Energy Programmes, the overcoming of disproportion in the development of separate industries, of bottlenecks in capital construction and transport are constantly in the spotlight of attention of the Political Bureau and the Secretariat of the Central Committee.

Priority importance is also attached to long-range matters. They include the development of the national economic plan for the 12th Five-Year Plan period and of concepts up to the year 2000, improvement of the national economic management.

The party is tackling tasks of principled importance in the sphere of ideological work, this refers, above all, to preparing the new wording of the CPSU Programme, the entire range of tasks set by the June (1983) plenary meeting of the CPSU Central Committee. We attach great significance to the school reform.

In the foreign political activity it is also important to continue developing the constructive line aimed at the ensuring of durable peace on earth, averting of the threat of war. The primary duty of the party to the Soviet people is to ensure the motherland's reliable defence.

Konstantin Chernenko pointed out that the solution of the tasks faced by the country depends directly on the enhancement of the level of party guidance. In this connection the question of further improvement of the methods of party work is in the order of the day.

The party apparatus is the expressor of the bill of every committee, from the Central Committee down to a regional committee, in the implementation of the policy of the CPSU, in directing complex processes of society's development. The party places special demand upon every member of the apparatus. To work in the party apparatus is a great honour and at the same time a great responsibility for a Communist.

Konstantin Chernenko spoke highly about the organizing and political activity of the apparatus of the Central Committee of the party and on behalf of the Political Bureau and Secretariat of the CPSU Central Committee expressed the confidence that the apparatus of the Central Committee will always be equal to the tasks facing the party and the people.

Unity, Economic Points Stressed

PM061819 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 7 Mar 84 First Edition p 1

[Unattributed report: "At the CPSU Central Committee"]

[Text] On March 6 Comrade Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, had a meeting with workers of the party Central Committee apparatus. Taking part in the meeting were: Comrades Gorbachev, Romanov, and Solomentsev, members of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo; Comrades Dolgikh and Ponomarev, candidate members of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo; and Comrades Zimyanin, Ligachev, and Ryzhkov, secretaries of the CPSU Central Committee.

Comrade Chernenko made a big speech in which are defined the main tasks of the party committees in light of the decisions of the 26th party congress and the ensuing CPSU Central Committee Plenums.

The February 1984 CPSU Central Committee Plenum and the elections to the USSR Supreme Soviet, Comrade Chernenko noted, strikingly demonstrated the unbreakable unity of the party and people and the monolithic unity of the party ranks. The main manifestation of this unity is the firm resolution not only to go ahead according to the planned course but also creatively, boldly, to develop it. Such are the Leninist traditions of our party; such is the meaning of continuity in policy.

Pursuing the course collectively worked out, the CPSU Central Committee is directing the efforts of the party and people toward enhancing the efficiency of the national economy, improving ideological work, activating all processes of perfecting mature socialism, further strengthening of positions of the Soviet Union on the world arena.

It was stressed that the closest attention of the higher bodies of the party and state will, as ever, be given to the development of the economy. Now it is important to work in such a way as to ensure not only fulfillment but overfulfillment of the targets set for 1984.

This requires the utilization of all the possibilities of our national economy, to pull up the lagging sectors in time. The organizational standard and discipline should be unswervingly enhanced, and the main reserves of accelerating scientific-technical progress, securing the full loading of production capacities, and everywhere stepping up the economizing policy should be actively utilized.

Constantly within the field of vision of the Politburo and the Central Committee Secretariat are the fulfillment of the Food and Energy Programs and the removal of lack of balance in the development of individual industries, of bottlenecks in capital construction and in transportation.

Primary importance is also being given to long-term questions. Among these are the working out of a national economic plan for the 12th 5-Year Plan and concepts up to the year 2000, and the further improvement of national economic management. In the field of ideological work, too, the party is solving tasks of fundamental importance. This concerns primarily the preparation of a newly-edited version of the CPSU Program and of the whole complex of tasks set by the June 1983 CPSU Central Committee Plenum.

We attach great importance to reform of the schools.

In foreign policy activity it is important to continue to develop a constructive line, directed toward ensuring a firm peace on earth and warding off of the threat of war. It is a prime task of the party before the Soviet people to ensure reliable defense of the homeland. Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko pointed to the fact that the solution of the tasks that face the country depends directly upon raising the level of party leadership. In this connection the question of the further improvement of the style and methods of party work is placed on the agenda.

The party apparatus is the bearer of the will of every committee, from the Central Committee to the raykom, in the implementation of the policy of the CPSU and in the control of the complex processes of the development of society. The party makes special demands upon each one of its workers. For a Communist, work in the party apparatus is a great honor, but at the same time a great responsibility, too.

Comrade Chernenko dwelled further on key questions of the multifaceted activity of party committees, stressing that in the further improvement of this there cannot be even the slightest stagnation. Defining each of the successive tasks, the party workers must always turn to Lenin's behests, follow persistently the Leninist style, and assert it in all matters. In the first place, the party apparatus is called upon -- and this is its main function -- to ensure the strict implementation of the line of the CPSU, the fulfillment of the decisions of the Central Committee; and to set the tone in this work throughout the whole chain of execution. At the foundation of this activity there must be a deep analysis of the tendencies of economic and cultural construction. It is essential that these tendencies be picked up in good time and in a sensitive way; that well thought-out proposals and practical recommendations be made. In their work the party committees are obliged to proceed from the fact that they represent political organs, and the means that they use are political.

They organize the fulfillment of tasks, not bypassing the economic and soviet bodies, but through them. The key task of party committees is the improvement of the selection, placing and education of the cadres. Demands on them are constantly growing. Leaders [rukovoditel] in our day, said Comrade Chernenko, should be noted primarily for their devotion to the ideas of the party, their deep knowledge of the subject matter, their organizing capabilities, high cultural level, ability to think on the right scale, to have a feeling for what is new and to identify it in practice.

This is the point of view for the education of the cadres, improving the system of their training and the raising of their qualifications.

Particular care should be displayed in setting up a reserve of cadres, in providing assistance in work to that large group of leaders, recently elected to party committees or to the management of soviet or economic bodies.

In contemporary conditions, one's activities should be more directed toward organizing the fulfillment of adopted decisions and checking how they are being carried out. In these matters, the standards required should in no way be lowered. One must approach in a principled manner the assessment of leaders who occasionally fail in the fulfillment of tasks set. For the purpose of improving monitoring, [kontrol] stress should be laid on genuine [zhivoy] organizational activity, on personal verification of the state of affairs.

Instances which occur in practices of the proliferation of paperwork [bumagotvorchestvo] of being carried away by all sorts of sessions, and instances of departmentalism [vedomstevennost] and empire-building, were subjected to criticism. Attention was drawn to the need for eliminating these shortcomings as rapidly as possible.

The greatest importance is attached to the work of party committees with letters and declarations from the working people, which are such a source of social information. Every party worker must be faithful to the Leninist tradition of devoting unlimited attention to the needs and requirements [zaprosy] of the working people, not permit the slightest slackening of live contacts with them.

Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko then dwelled in detail on the routine tasks [ocherednyye zadachi] of the apparatus of the party Central Committee. Special stress was laid on the importance of close cooperation between departments of the Central Committee and party committees at local level.

Comrade Chernenko expressed a high opinion of the organizational and political activities of the apparatus of the party's Central Committee, and on behalf of the Politburo and Secretariat of the CPSU Central Committee expressed the conviction that the Central Committee apparatus would always be up to the tasks facing the party and people.

CHERNENKO RECEIVES SUPREME SOVIET DEPUTY CARD

LD071124 Moscow TASS in English 1105 GMT 7 Mar 84

[Text] Moscow March 7 TASS -- Konstantin Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, today received his card of deputy to the USSR Supreme Soviet. The elections to the country's supreme legislative body took place on March 4.

Accepting the card, Konstantin Chernenko expressed his profound and cordial gratitude to the voters of the Kuybyshevskiy Electoral District of Moscow and all the Muscovites for having been accorded the great trust and honour of being elected to the supreme body of state power.

Konstantin Chernenko pledged that as deputy he would make every effort to fulfill the mandate given him by the voters and loyally serve the cause of the party and the people and the ideals of communism. Having cast their ballots for the candidates of the bloc of Communists and non-party people, Konstantin Chernenko said, the Soviet people unanimously voiced support for the domestic and foreign policies of the Communist Party aimed at ensuring the triumph of the cause of building communism.

RESULTS OF SUPREME SOVIET ELECTIONS REPORTED

LD061806 Moscow TASS in English 1759 GMT 6 Mar 84

[All figures as received]

[Text] Moscow March 6 TASS -- The results of the elections to the USSR Supreme Soviet, the unanimous election of the candidates of the bloc of Communists and non-party people to the supreme body of state authority have provided further, convincing evidence of the unbreakable unity of the party and the people and of the working people's support for the domestic and foreign policies of the CPSU and the Soviet state, the Central Electoral Commission said today in a report, summing up the results of last Sunday's elections.

The elections were held to both chambers of the USSR Supreme Soviet -- the Soviet of the Union and the Soviet of Nationalities. A total of 750 electoral districts were formed in Soviet territory for the elections to the Soviet of the Union. The elections were held in all these districts. A total of 183,897,278 voters, or 99.94 percent, voted for the nominated candidates. A total of 109,072 voters voted against.

The candidates put on the ballots in the elections to the Soviet of the Union won an absolute majority of votes and were elected deputies in all electoral districts. In all, 750 people were elected to serve as deputies on the Soviet of the Union.

A total of 750 electoral districts were set up for holding the elections to the Soviet of Nationalities in the territories of all union and autonomous republics, autonomous regions and autonomous areas. The elections were held in 749 electoral districts. In the Dzhambul District (the Soviet Central Asian Republic of Kazkhstan) the elections did not take place in connection with the death of the candidate. They will be held in the near future.

The candidates standing for the Soviet of Nationalities got an absolute majority of votes and were elected deputies. In all, 749 persons were elected to that chamber.

The deputies include 527 workers (35.2 percent) and 242 collective farmers (16.1 percent). Thus, workers and collective farmers account for 51.3 percent of the deputies elected to the country's supreme legislative body. Women account for 32.8 percent of the deputies.

Members and probationary members of the CPSU account for 71.4 percent of the deputies. The rest of the deputies are not members of the party.

ELECTORAL COMMISSION CHAIRMAN ON ELECTIONS

LD061931 Moscow TASS in English 1911 GMT 6 Mar 84

[Text] Moscow March 6 TASS -- Practically all electors participated in elections to the USSR Supreme Soviet, this being evidence of political activity of the Soviet people, their profound interest in affairs and destinies of their state, said Chairman of the Central Electoral Commission Georgiy Markov. He made a speech today at a press conference for Soviet and foreign journalists in Moscow.

Georgiy Markov noted that deputies of more than 60 nationalities had been elected to the Supreme Soviet. The USSR Supreme Soviet was renewed by almost 60 percent. The data about the deputies, he stressed, provide evidence of the life-asserting strength of the unbreakable alliance of the workers, peasants, intellectuals, with the leading role of the working class. They really reflect the multinational character of the Soviet state, friendship and cohesion of all nations and nationalities of the land of the soviets.

Leaders of the Communist Party and the Soviet state, foremost workers and innovators in production, specialists of different branches of the national economy, scientists and personalities prominent in culture, doctors, teachers, workers of the public service establishment system, engineers, party, local government, trade union and Young Communist League workers, prominent military leaders were elected deputies. These are really competent, really people's representatives, who have the necessary political and business qualities and who deserved respect of the working people.

Sums up Election Results

LD062028 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 6 Mar 84

[Text] A meeting was held today, in the Hall of Columns in the House of the Union, of the Central Electoral Commission on the USSR Supreme Soviet elections. A speech was made at the meeting by Georgiy Mokeyevich Markov, chairman of the commission. He said:

[Begin recording] Esteemed comrades, we must now sum up the results of the elections to the USSR Supreme Soviet of the 11th convocation. We have all the necessary data for this. More than 184 million people took part in the voting, or 99.99 percent of the overall number of voters included in the list. There were 99.94 percent of voters voting for candidates to deputy of the Soviet of the Union. Voting for candidates to deputy of the Soviet of Nationalities were 99.95 percent of those who took part in the voting. All candidates who were nominated and registered by the okrug electoral commissions were elected to deputy of the USSR Supreme Soviet of the 11th convocation.

Leaders of the Communist Party and Soviet state were elected to the USSR Supreme Soviet. More than half of the deputies are workers and kolkhoz workers. Among the deputies are some of the most authoritative and respected people in the country, front-rankers of industry and agriculture, teachers and doctors, writers and scientists, party, administrative, trade union and Komsomol workers.

Almost one-third of the deputies are women. Every fifth deputy is under 30 years of age. A total of 28.6 percent are nonparty members. The elected deputies are representatives of all the union and autonomous republics, people of different nationalities. The social and national composition of the USSR Supreme Soviet of the 11th convocation demonstrates its genuinely democratic nature.

The results of elections to the USSR Supreme Soviet of the 11th convocation convincingly testify to the monolithic cohesion of party and people, to the full support given by the working people for the domestic and foreign policies of the CPSU and the Soviet state the total approval of the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee February Plenum and their resolve to fulfill the tasks set in the speech made at the plenum by Comrade Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko, general secretary of the party Central Committee.

The election campaign showed the Soviet people's profound interest in further development of socialist democracy, in strengthening the economic and defense might of our homeland, improving the management of the national economy, and raising the level of organization and discipline in all sectors of work. The stirring meeting between voters and comrade Konstantin Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, provoked a vital response in the hearts of millions. His speech at the preelection meeting of voters of Moscow's Kuybyshevskiy constituency contains a profound analysis of the successes achieved by our country and of the contemporary international situation.

The Communist Party shows constant concern for the growth of the material and spiritual might of the socialist society and devotes unflagging attention to issues of its sociopolitical development and the broad involvement of the masses in the management of state.

The election campaign is always a nationwide affair in our country. Millions of Soviet people took part in the work of the electoral commissions, preelection meetings and constituency conferences, acted as agents for candidate-deputies, agitators and propagandists. One can say with total justification that the current election campaign took place in an atmosphere of the most active, interested participation by the working people and all voters, in an atmosphere of broad publicity.

Allow me, on behalf of the Central Electoral Commission, to cordially thank all electoral commissions, workers of the soviets of people's deputies, ministries, and USSR state committees and departments, who took part in the election campaign, for their conscientious work in the period of preparation for and holding of the elections to the USSR Supreme Soviet of the 11th convocation. [applause] [end recording]

CHERNENKO SPEECH, ELECTIONS SHOW SOVIET UNITY

PM061320 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 4 Mar 84 First Edition p 1

[Editorial: "The Power of the Soviets Is the Power of the People"]

[Excerpt] Our towns and villages are decked today in red for the USSR Supreme Soviet elections. Millions of Soviet people are going to the polling places to exercise their very important constitutional right and fulfill their lofty civic duty by voting for the candidate deputies to the supreme organ of state power of the land of the soviets.

The stirring meeting between Comrade K.U. Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and voters evoked a lively response in the hearts of millions of people. His speech to an election meeting of working people of Moscow City's No 11 Kuybyshevskiy Electoral Okrug provided an in-depth analysis of crucial problems of domestic life and the international situation and defined the key avenues on which the efforts of Communists and the whole people must now be concentrated.

This year the election campaign, Comrade K.U. Chernenko noted, "has been marked by great activeness and by the businesslike character of voters' meetings. It has been a living testimony to the unshakable unity of the party and the people. The CPSU attaches enormous significance to the Supreme Soviet elections. After all, they essentially represent a report by Soviet power to the working people. They are also a form of control by the masses over the work of those whom they have empowered to run the socialist state.

"It is part of the party's tradition to always conduct open, honest discussion with the masses. It is this approach which permeates the CPSU Central Committee address which formulated the party's election platform".

Soviet people are experiencing a sense of profound satisfaction at the beneficial results of CPSU domestic and foreign policy in the years since the previous USSR Supreme Soviet elections. The party outlined for this period a further acceleration in the rates of economic and social development and an improvement in the level of the people's prosperity and promised the people that it would make every effort to maintain peace on earth and strengthen the country's defense capability. Today every Soviet person can say with complete justification that the party and its Leninist Central Committee have kept their word!

The CPSU Central Committee extraordinary February (1984) Plenum vividly demonstrated the continuity of the party's political course of improving developed socialism and of unswervingly implementing the guidelines of the 26th CPSU Congress as creatively enriched and concretized by subsequent Central Committee plenums.

Numerous facts and figures indicate the gratifying changes in our life. Each of us and every family is aware of the importance and reality of what has been achieved. National income, four-fifths of which is directed toward raising the people's well-being, has increased considerably. Almost 50 million people have acquired a new home. More than 1,000 new industrial enterprises furnished with modern equipment have been commissioned. The Energy and the Food Programs are being consistently implemented. Although we were again unlucky with the weather last year, the grain crop exceeded 190 million metric tons. Livestock productivity also rose markedly.

The Communist Party has come to the USSR Supreme Soviet elections, as before, in an indissoluble bloc with nonparty people. This has profound significance and convincingly shows that the party's policy is a truly people's policy whose aim is everything in the name of man and in the name of the socialist fatherland. In casting our vote today for candidate deputies we will be voting for further growth in each family's well-being, further blossoming of the country's spiritual life, friendship among the peoples, and peace throughout the world.

SOVIET PEACE POLICY BACKED BY COUNTRY'S VOTERS

PM061152 [Editorial Report] Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 5 March 1984 First Edition front-pages a 1,200-word editorial entitled "Powerful Unity." The bulk of the editorial is devoted to the significance of USSR Supreme Soviet election day and of the voters' instructions to candidate deputies. The editorial includes following remarks on foreign policy: "One of the voters' most important and most urgent instructions is to avert the threat of war and preserve peace for this and future generations. Soviet people unanimously approve the party's Leninist foreign policy course. At the same time the instructions express support for the efforts of the party and the state aimed at ensuring the adequate defense of the country and of its friends and allies.

"The Soviet Union and the other socialist countries are in the vanguard of the struggle for peace. Our peace initiatives find support among all progressive mankind. Thus there is now a broad response in the world to the principles of our foreign policy as set out in Comrade K.U. Chernenko's speech. The main aim of that policy is to prevent nuclear war."

IMPORTANCE OF UNITY IN WORK, ELECTIONS STRESSED

PM061519 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 4 Mar 84 Second Edition p 1

[Editorial: "For the Motherland's Further Flowering"]

[Excerpt] The Soviet people's cohesion around the CPSU's Leninist Central Committee and the indissoluble unity of the party and the people were manifested with great new force during the voters' meetings with candidate deputies. On election day our thoughts go back over and over again to the CPSU Central Committee's appeal to all voters and citizens of the USSR -- the party's election platform -- to the moving meeting between the voters of Moscow City's Kuybyshevskiy Electoral Okrug and Comrade K.U. Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and candidate deputy of the USSR Supreme Soviet, and to his speech to the voters.

It made an in-depth, comprehensive analysis of the people's achievements in developing the economy, science, and culture and, at the same time, of the unresolved tasks, and it defined the main directions of the country's further socioeconomic progress, of the activity of organs of Soviet power, and of ideological work, and made an assessment of the present international situation.

The entire content of Comrade K.U. Chernenko's speech is imbued with faith in the working masses' creative strength and with concern for the people's good and happiness, for preserving and strengthening peace on earth, and for ensuring the motherland's reliable security. The entire Soviet people warmly and unanimously approve and support this policy of the party and its Leninist course.

From the summit of the heights scaled Soviet people cast their minds back on election day over the path traveled by the country over the 5 years that have elapsed since the previous elections. A short length of time for history. But much has been done through the people's selfless labor and the party's concerns to implement the great and complex tasks set by the 25th and 26th CPSU Congresses. The national income has increased. Fixed production capital has increased. More than 1,000 new enterprises have been commissioned. Our country today holds first place in the world in regard to the production of more than 30 major types of industrial output. The Energy and Food Programs are being implemented consistently, The people's lives are improving. Per capita real incomes have increased 13 percent since the last elections. Almost 50 million people have moved into new housing. Social consumption funds are constantly increasing. Much has been done for the development of education, science, and culture. All these achievements convincingly attest to socialism's great creative force.

Our successes in economic and cultural building and in enhancing the people's well-being are the result of the selfless labor of millions of Soviet people. "Everything we have," Comrade K.U. Chernenko said in his speech at the meeting with voters, "everythung we are proud of -- the motherland's freedom and might, its high prestige in the international arena, and the people's full, peaceful life -- we owe all this to the Soviet people's strenuous creative labor. It -- this labor -- is the inexhaustible source of our confidence in the future."

Our successes and achievements are the result of the Communist party's correct, scientifically substantiated policy and of the multifaceted and purposeful activity of the CPSU Central Committee and the Central Committee Politburo. And it is to it, to Lenin's party, that we today address our very best and brightest thoughts and feelings. We know that everything the party does is subordinated to the working people's good and happiness. It has no interests other than those of the people. Soviet people always support the party warmly and unanimously in all its deeds and undertakings. We are always with the party! It is our premier duty.

We are going to the elections with thoughts about the future, thinking about how best to fulfill the historic decisions of the 26th party congress and subsequent CPSU Central Committee plenums. We live by those decisions. They are our combat banner. They reveal the prospects for the country's socioeconomic progress and ways to improve the developed socialist society that have been built in the USSR.

Soviet people are going to the elections thinking about peace. With the ardent desire to preserve and strengthen it. The words of Comrade K.U. Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, that the party and the Soviet state unswervingly follow the people's instructions -- to cherish peace as the apple of their eye and to ensure our motherland's security -- have found a warm response in the hearts of millions of Soviet people.

Together with the people and united with them in a single indivisible whole, the servicemen of the USSR Armed Forces -- citizens of the USSR with full rights -- are also participating in the elections. The motherland has entrusted them with protecting its happiness, its creative labor, and its communist building. And, together with their brothers in spirit and in arms -- the servicemen of the Warsaw Pact states' armies -- they are reliably guarding socialism's gains and sacredly fulfilling their duty to the people: to be in a state of constant combat readiness guaranteeing an immediate rebuff to any aggressor.

The CPSU Central Committee's appeal to all voters and citizens of the USSR contains a call to servicemen to tirelessly improve their combat skill and training, persistently master formidable weapons and modern hardware, and be always on the alert. Soviet servicemen are unswervingly following this call, strengthening discipline in every way, and enhancing the vigilance and combat readiness of units and ships.

Under the conditions of an international situation which has been exacerbated through the fault of imperialism, the party and the people display indefatigable concern for strengthening the country's defense capability and the Armed Forces' combat might. "...Let everyone know," Comrade K.U. Chernenko's speech emphasized, "that no lovers of military adventures will succeed in catching us unawares and that no potential aggressor can hope to avoid a crushing counterstrike."

Soviet people are going to the USSR Supreme Soviet elections closely rallied around their dear Communist Party and its Leninist Central Committee. Responding warmly to the CPSU Central Committee's appeal to all voters and citizens of the USSR, they are casting their votes today for candidates of the unbreakable bloc of Communists and nonparty people. In voting for them we are voting for the further strengthening of the country's economic and defense might, for the steady raising of the living standards of all Soviet people, for our socialist democracy, for the great and unbreakable friendship of the brother peoples, for the Leninist foreign policy -- a policy of peace.

...The Soviet citizen drops the voting papers into the ballot box, and his vote merges with the votes of millions of other voters into the united will of the people. By the very fact of voting, through the voting machinery, we enter into the management of the socialist state of the whole people, which is marching at the head of world social progress.

Today is a joyful nationwide festival -- the USSR Supreme Soviet elections.

Everyone to the elections!

PEOPLES' WELL-BEING INCREASED SINCE LAST ELECTION

LD061352 Moscow TASS in English 1235 GMT 6 Mar 84

[Text] Moscow March 6 TASS -- Tass Observer Boris Prokhorov writes:

"Four fifths of the national income have been channelled of late to improving the popular wellbeing", the General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Konstantin Chernenko pointed out last week in his speech before the electors, characterizing the time that has elapsed between the two elections to the USSR Supreme Soviet. There are few countries whose social policy would deserve the same description.

In one analyses the tasks of the current five-year plan (1981-1885) one cannot fail to notice what enormous resources are channelled from the USSR budget to satisfying the vital needs of the Soviet people. In the coming five years the Soviet state will spend on the social needs alone (education, health service, pensions, etc) about 664 billion roubles which amounts to nearly 930 billion dollars.

What are these billions of roubles to be spent on? In short, they will be spent on the practical exercise of broad social and economic rights enjoyed by citizens of this country.

It is worth recalling one of the characteristic features of the Soviet social and economic system: Such benefits as the possibility to avail themselves of all kinds of health care, to have a rest and improve one's health, to study at any educational establishment without exception and to have a guaranteed material support in old age are regarded in the USSR as inalienable rights of every person irrespective of his material status. For these reasons, all these and many other services are rendered to Soviet people free of charge, they are all paid for by the state. This shows that the Soviet system ensures to all the citizens an access to the basic benefits which provide for a worthy position for everyone.

The volume and number of social benefits, services and allowances granted by the state to the Soviet people are steadily growing. For example in the past several years, wages of certain categories of factory and office workers have been increased, the minimum level of all the pensions has been raised, women have been given paid leaves to attend to their babies under one year of age, the range of state allowances to families in connection with the birth of children has been expanded, etc.

One should bear in mind that all these steps are taken in condition when prices of the staple food product and consumer goods, the rent, etc, remain unchanged.

This social and economic policy will be carried on in the future as well. "In the coming years it is planned to increase wages of teachers and other education workers. We shall continue to take care of the war and labour veterans, of families with many children, young couples, in short, we shall work to improve the living standards of the Soviet people as a whole", Konstantin Chernenko underlined in his speech before the electors.

We cannot but remember in this connection the extract from the resolution of the December 1983 plenary meeting of the CPSU Central Committee which formulates the social policy of the Communist Party: "In the long run, all our efforts are directed at improving the living standards of the pepole. This is the principal social-political objective of our plans".

DEPUTY MINISTER EXPELLED FROM PARTY FOR ABUSE

[Text] Moscow March 7 TASS -- The Party Control Committee under the CPSU Central Committee has expelled from the party Viktor Vishnayakov, who while in the post of deputy minister of tractor and agricultural machinery building, abused his office with selfish aims.

Vishnayakov has been dismissed from his post. The U.S.S.R. procurator's office has instituted criminal proceedings against Vishnyakov and his accomplices.

CHERNENKO'S TIME ON KIRGHIZ BORDER RECALLED

PM061123 [Editorial Report] Frunze SOVETSKAYA KIRGIZIYA in Russian 25 February 1984 carried on page 4 a 1,500-word article by Colonel N. Skakun, deputy chief of the Red Banner Eastern Border District Political Department, pegged to the 60th anniversary of the CPU [Main Political Administration of the KGB] decree setting up the border district, titled "On Combat Patrol for the Motherland."

The author traces the history of the Eastern Border District since its establishment. Speaking of the pre-World War II period, he says: "The district's servicemen are especially proud of the fact that Comrade K.U. Chernenko marched over the patrol paths of the southeast border as combat leader [boyevoy vozhak] of the border post Communists at the very height of those difficult times. The Border Guards learned with enormous satisfaction of Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko's unanimous election as general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee by the CPSU Central Committee extraordinary February Plenum."

Skakun describes the border district's history from World War II to the present day, and concludes:

"Our motherland's southeastern frontier is reliably guarded by and is in the experienced and loyal hands of people for whom there is no loftier honor and duty than to selflessly serve the great Lenin's cause, the Communist Party, and the Soviet people."

KGB EASTERN BORDER DISTRICT HOLDS MEETINGS

LD061039 Alma-Ata Domestic Service in Russian 0005 GMT 3 Mar 84

[Text] A festive meeting of representatives of the city's working people and the servicemen of the Alma-Ata garrison devoted to the 60th anniversary of the Red Banner Eastern Border District of the USSR State Security Committee was held in the Kazakh Abay State Academic Theatre of Opera and Ballet in Alma-Ata yesterday. The meeting was opened by Kulibayev, chairman of the Alma-Ata City Executive Committee. The participants in the meeting elected with enthusiasm an honorary presidium consisting of the Politburo of the Leninist CPSU Central Committe headed by Comrade Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

The participants accepted with great enthusiasm the telegram of congratulations from Comrade Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, addressed to the servicemen of the Eastern Border District. Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko did his military service in this area in the 1930's. Nazarbayev, secretary of the Kazahkhstan Communist Party Central Committee, read the telegram. The servicemen of the area cordially welcomed the Central Committee's congratulations.

The frontier guards were cordially greeted by Major-General Lomov, member of the Bureau of the Kirghizia Communist Party Central Committee, chairman of the State Security Committee of the Kirghiz SSR; Major-General Perventsev, member of the Bureau of the Tadzhikistan Communist Party Central Committee, chairman of the State Security Committee of the Tadzhik SSR.

Lieutenant General Donskov, commander of the troops of the Red Banner Eastern Border District of the USSR Committee for State Security, delivered a report entitled "60 Years of Guarding the Homeland's Eastern Frontiers."

The participants were greeted by the city's Young Pioneers. The participants in the meeting approved a letter of congratulations addressed to the CPSU Central Committee which contained the assurances that the area's frontier guards will do their utmost, in the future as well, to provide reliable protection for the homeland's frontiers.

MARSHAL KULIKOV ADDRESSES ARMENIAN ELECTORATE

GF020740 Yerevan SOVETAKAN AYASTAN in Armenian 18 Feb 84 p 2

[Excerpts] On 17 February, a meeting of the electors of Yerevan Spandaryan No 387 Electorial Okrug was attended by Viktor Georgiyevich Kulikov, candidate for deputy of the USSR Supreme Soviet Soviet of Nationalities and first deputy USSR defense minister, general commander of the Joint Armed Forces of the Warsaw Pact member countries and marshal of the Soviet Union.

On the Presidium with Soviet Marshal V.G. Kulikov were G.N. Andreyev, second secretary of the Armenian Communist Party Central Committee; Lieutenant General V.M. Arkhipov, commander of the Transcaucasian Military District forces; Y.V. Shatalin, member of the Armenian Communist Party Central Committee Bureau; party and soviet officials, and prominent production leaders. The meeting was declared open by Y.A. Melik-Oganchanyan, first secretary of Spandaryan.

The attendants warmly received the Soviet Marshal V.G. Kulikov.

He said: I express deep gratitude to "Karun" Production Association and machine construction factory workers collectives, "Hayartnakhagitz" Institute workers and all the electors of Yerevan Spandaryan Electroal Okrug for the honor that they have shown me by proposing me as a candidate for USSR Supreme Soviet deputy.

I attribute the confidence shown to me completely to our Communist Party and our glorious Soviet Armed Forces which once again affirm the unshakable unity of the Army and people.

A few days ago our country and all mankind bid their last farewell to Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov. The extraordinary plenum of our party unanimously elected Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko, prominent party and Soviet Government official, to the post of general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. That election was accepted by our people as an adoption of the stable Leninist course in the party's domestic and foreign policy activity.

Following the last elections of the 10th convocation of the USSR Supreme Soviet, during the past period through the fulfillment of the 26th CPSU Congress resolutions the Soviet people achieved significant success in all national economy sectors. Those years were full of creative work, great new works and the constant struggle for the preservation of peace.

In this address Comrade Kulikov noted that Soviet Armenia made a great contribution to communist construction work and that its services are appreciated by all Soviet people and the party and government. Through fulfillment of the 26th CPSU Congress and the 27th Armenian Communist Party Congress resolutions, the republic achieved significant success in development. He said: I wish to say that the characteristic of Armenia's modern economy is the primary importance given to production affecting scientific and technical progress, such as radio-electronics, electronics, and equipment and machine-tool building. By example of your republic, the care of our party toward the people is seen.

The Marshal of the Soviet Union said: Last year was a great critical year due to the unwise policy of Washington.

It showed what a fateful role the "crusaders' campaign" declared by the White House against the public system of socialism can play for mankind. The deployment of U.S. nuclear missiles in Europe caused extreme deterioration of the political climate and the escalation of military confrontation.

It can be said that the U.S. Administration aborted the Geneva talks, which aimed at limiting and basically reducing nuclear arms. For that the responsibility lies fully on NATO and those governments on the territories of which the "Pershing II" and cruise missiles are being deployed. The Soviet Union and other Warsaw Pact countries cannot ignore this threat and are obliged to take countermeasures. They have no right to sacrifice and will never sacrifice the interests of their security. At the same time, we are ready to resolve the problem of nuclear arms in Europe on an equal basis and are laying that issue in front of the United States and its NATO allies because we want to avoid another arms race -- this time on a new and more dangerous level -- that will increase tension and instability in Europe.

Kulikov said: The USSR's defense efforts are conditioned by stern necessity. Under the leadership of the Communist Party and the devoted work of the Soviet people, our Army and Navy have reached new levels of perfection over recent years.

The Soviet Armed Forces are developing as an inseparable part of the armies of the Warsaw Pact member socialist countries. The military defense of socialism is the basic factor for socialist construction; it is an important international issue. It is being solved by the united efforts of the fraternal armies. The Joint Armed Forces of the Warsaw Pact are in high fighting readiness and are able to secure the collective defense of the entire socialist association.

On behalf of the Defense Ministry, Comrade Kulikov expressed appreciation to all the party, government and local organs of the republic, the military commisariats and work collectives for the great care and attention that they display toward the Transcaucasus Military Okrug and the high level of the military and patriotic education.

At the conclusion Marshal of the Soviet Union V.G. Kulikov wished the workers of Yerevan and those throughout the republic new production achievements in fulfillment of the 4th year targets of the 11th 5-Year Plan, health, great happiness and prosperity in life.

GRISHIN ADDRESSES MOSCOW GORKOM CONFERENCE

PM011618 [Editorial Report] Moscow MOSKOVSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 23 February 1984 front-pages an unattributed report entitled "Conference at the Moscow CPSU Gorkom" on a meeting of party raykom first secretaries held in Moscow 22 February. The report notes that the conference "examined the question of progress in the preparations for the elections to the USSR Supreme Soviet, 11th convocation," and it was addressed by V.V. Grishin, first secretary of the Moscow CPSU Gorkom.

MARTYNOV ATTENDS RESOURCES PANEL MEETING

PM020927 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 28 Feb 84 p 2

[TASS report: "Commission Sesssion"]

[Text] A session of the Interdepartmental Commission for Saving and Making Rational Use of Material Resources was held 27 February in Moscow.

It examined questions of the precise observance of the prescribed limit for electricity generation and consumption and the efficient processing of raw materials at USSR Light Industry Ministry enterprises.

The leaders of union republics, ministries, and departments who addressed the session analyzed the causes of the overexpenditure of fuel and energy resources, raw materials, and semimanufactures, and elaborated specific measures for their efficient and rational utilization.

N.V. Martynov, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, took part in the commission's session.

ALIYEV ADDRESSES AZERBAIJAN ECONOMIC AKTIV

PM021622 Baku BAKINSKIY RABOCHIY in Russian 24 Feb 84 p 3

[AZERINFORM report: "Meeting With the Republic's Aktiv"]

[Text] On 22 February G.A. Aliyev, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, met with the republic's party, soviet and economic aktiv.

Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee First Secretary K.M. Bagirov reported on the results of the republic's fulfillment of plans and socialist pledges for 1983 and the first 3 years of the 5-year plan and talked about the party organization's work to implement the decisions of the 26th congress and subsequent CPSU Central Committee plenums and the measures being taken to increase demands on cadres and further strengthen party, state, plan and labor discipline.

Comrade G.A. Aliyev noted the republic's achievements in economic and social development and the contribution of Azerbaijan's working people to the country's successes, a contribution which is highly rated by the CPSU Central Committee and Soviet Government. At the same time, he pointed out the existing omissions, reserves and possibilities for further improving social production efficiency and labor productivity. In this connection Comrade Aliyev dwelled in detail upon the republican party organization's tasks relating to the practical implemention of the demands of the December (1983) and extraordinary February Plenums of the CPSU Central Committee and the propositions and conclusions contained in CPSU Central Committee General Secretary Comrade K.U. Chernenko's speech at it. He stressed the need to fulfill and overfulfill the plans for 1984 and the 5-year plan as a whole in terms of all technical and economic indicators, to make wider use of the economic experiment in industry, to improve the work of transportation, especially the railroads, and the services sphere and wage a most vigorous struggle for savings of raw material, fuel and metal. In agriculture it is necessary to steadily increase the yields and quality of cotton and the amount of fiber obtained from the raw cotton supplied to the state, improve land reclamation and develop livestock raising more effectively.

In terms of the solution of social questions emphasis was placed on the importance of the mass construction of schools and vocational and technical colleges, which acquires special significance in connection with preparations for the reform of general educational and vocational schools, and of the construction of housing, health establishments, kindergartens and creches.

In conclusion G.A. Aliyev dwelled on the republican party organization's tasks in further improving organizations, party political and educational work and on questions of improving the selection, placement and education of cadres.

He hoped the Communists and all working people of Azerbaijan would constantly move forward and achieve more and he expressed confidence that the republic party organization would always live up to the high ratings it has been given by Comrade K.U. Chernenko in his works.

The meeting was attended by Comrades O.A. Bagirov, G.A. Gasanov, S.Ch. Kasumova, V.N. Konovalov, I.A. Mamedov, R.E. Mekhtiyev, F.E. Musayev, G.N. Seidov, S.B. Tatliyev, Z.M. Yusif-Zade, D.M. Muslim-Zade, L.Kh. Rasulova and G.Sh. Efendiyev; V.A. Kondratyev, sector chief at the CPSU Central Committee Organizational Party Work department, and B.F. Sidorov, instructor at the CPSU Central Committee Organizational Party Work Department.

SHEVARDNADZE, ANTONOV ATTEND GEORGIAN CEREMONY

LD251920 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1300 GMT 25 Feb 84

[Text] Presentation of Challenge Red Banners of the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Council of Ministers, the AUCCTU and the VLKSM [All-Union Komsomol] Central Committee continues around the country. This award has been made for the 11th time, for lofty labor achievements, to the Georgian SSR. At a meeting this morning in Tbilisi of the Republican party-economic aktiv the banner was presented by Comrade Antonov, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers.

Comrade Shevardnadze, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Georgian Communist Party Central Committee, and others who spoke noted that the republic's labor kollektivs are responding in actions to the decisions of the December 1983 and February 1984 Plenums of the CPSU Central Committee. Having spread widely the movement for raising productivity above planned levels and further reducing production costs, they have pledged to turn out above-quota industrial output to the tune of 100 million rubles this year.

AWARD CEREMONIES IN REPUBLIC CAPITALS REPORTED

PM011329 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 26 Feb 84 First Edition p 2

[TASS report: "Banners Presented"]

[Text] The Belorussian SSR, the Georgian SSR, and the Latvian SSR have been awarded CPSU Central Committee, USSR Council of Ministers, AUCCTU, and Komsomol Central Committee Challenge Red Banners for high achievements in the all-union socialist competition during 1983.

A.K. Antonov, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, presented a banner at a meeting of the republic's party and economic aktiv in Tbilisi.

E.A. Shevardnadze, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Georgian Communist Party Central Committee, and other speakers pointed out that Georgia's working people will make every effort to successfully implement the 26th CPSU Congress decisions and will make a worthy contribution to strengthening the motherland's economic and defense might.

G.I. Marchuk, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, presented an award at an aktiv meeting in Minsk.

The speeches by N.N. Slyunkov, first secretary of the Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee, and other speakers pointed out that presentation of the Red Banner to the republic will contribute to improving work, resolving economic and social problems, and making fuller use of reserves.

Z.N. Buriyev, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, presented the motherland's high award at a meeting in Riga.

A.E. Voss, first secretary of the Latvian Communist Party Central Committee, and other speakers gave an assurance that the republic's working people will augment their efforts in the struggle to further improve production efficiency and work quality.

TYUMEN OBKOM AKTIV DEBATES ECONOMIC PROBLEMS

PM051123 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 24 Feb 24 84 p 1

[Own correspondent Yu. Belanov report: "Mood for Action"]

[Excerpts] Tyumen -- The oblast's Communists and all its working people wholly approve the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee extraordinary February (1984) Plenum and the election of Comrade K.U. Chernenko as general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, G. Bogomyakov, first secretary of the Tyumen Obkom, said in his report to a meeting of the oblast party organization aktiv. Soviet people are closing their ranks even more closely around the party's Leninist Central Committee and its Politburo and are fully resolved to pursue firmly and consistently a Leninist course in implementing the decisions of the 26th congress and subsequent CPSU Central Committee Plenums.

The successes of the workers of Tyumen Oblast -- the country's main fuel base -- are well known. However, both the rapporteur and the speakers in the debate focused their main attention not on the achievements, but on unresolved tasks and the key questions of developing the oblast's industry and improving party leadership of the economy.

The persistent struggle for an above-plan increase in labor productivity and an additional reduction in the prime cost of output is one of those questions, G. Bogomyakov said. The collectives of the Tyumengazprom and Yuganskneftegaz Associations, the Neftemash plants, and shipbuilding and other enterprises in the oblast have energetically set about resolving this task. They successfully coped with last year's and have made a good start to work this year.

However, by no means is everyone working efficiently. Almost one in four of the oblast's enterprises failed to meet the January plans for sale of output and one in three failed to meet the labor productivity plans. Consequently, the oblast as a whole did not fulfill the January program for sales of industrial output and labor productivity.

Last year the plan for petroleum extraction was not fulfilled for the first time. The country failed to receive more than 3 million metric tons of fuel from the Tyumen petroleum workers. Objective factors did play a role here, for example, the difficult weather conditions. However, the main reason lay elsewhere, in the inadequate level of party committees' organizational work and their low exactingness toward economic leaders.

The Main Administration for Petroleum and Gas for the Tyumen Oblast is at present receiving considerable assistance in the form of machinery and other resources, the rapporteur and speakers pointed out. But matters are being rectified only slowly. The main administration's daily petroleum extraction in February is 15-20,000 metric tons behind the plan. In all, since the beginning of the year, the petroleum workers have fallen behind by more than 750,000 metric tons. Only half the 19 petroleum extraction administrations have coped with the plan. The following fact was adduced: If every well which is ready for use were brought into operation, it would be possible not only to fulfill but to overfulfill the petroleum extraction plan. However, the leaders of the main administration and the associations are completely incapable of reorienting themselves toward specific work in grassroots production collectives. This reproach also wholly applies to a number of the oblast's party committees.

The CPSU Central Committee February Plenum, the rapporteur said, spoke of the need to improve the style of party leadership, of precisely delimiting the functions of party committees and the tasks of state and economic organs, and of eliminating duplication in their work. The practice of supplanting soviet and economic organs contains the danger of weakening the role of party committees as organs of political leadership. At a plenum of Tyumen City's Leninskiy Raykom, for example, construction workers raised the question of interruptions in brick deliveries to construction projects. But instead of demanding that the economic leaders put the matter right and monitor the carrying out of deliveries, the party raykom assumed their functions itself. The raykom workers began to draw up schedules, allocate machinery and set priorities for receiving bricks. But for party committees dealing with the economy, as the CPSU Central Committee plenum emphasized, means above all dealing with the people running the economy.

The CPSU Central Committee particularly emphasized that election to a party committee must be regarded as a kind of vote of confidence by party members in their comrades. Confidence that must be justified by selfless labor. The oblast has around 39,000 Communists in its elected party aktiv. That constitutes an enormous force.

The aktiv meeting expressed its firm conviction that the oblast's Communists and working people will cope honorably with the tasks put forward at the CPSU Central Committee February Plenum.

BRIEFS

RED BANNERS PRESENTED -- Challenge Red Banners will be presented today to Leningrad and Leningrad Oblast at meetings of the party, local authority, trade union and Komsomol aktivs, for successful fulfillment of economic and social development plans. Challenge Red Banners will also be presented today to other socialist competition winners: the Chuvash ASSR, Ivanovo Oblast, Tselinograd, Norilsk and the Zavenyagin Mining and Metallurgical Combine, the Ryazan Punched Tape Machine Works and other labor collectives. [summary] [Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0500 GMT 28 Feb 84 LD]

YOUTH PUBLICATION -- The first edition of the weekly SOBESEDNIK [INTERLOCUTOR], a supplement to KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA, was published today. It has 16 pages and is designed to appeal to 14-28-year olds. The first edition is published in 1 million copies. It is the first newspaper-type publication in the USSR to have color illustrations. [summary] [Moscow Television Service in Russian 1530 GMT 23 Feb 84 LD]

ILLEGAL PRACTICES IN UKRAINE COAL MINES NOTED

LD051557 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1130 GMT 5 Mar 84

[Sergey Zheleznyak commentary]

[Excerpts] One can say that the movement for above-plan raising of labor productivity and reducing prime costs of output has now taken shape throughout the country. Recently the people's controllers of the Ukraine revealed a most original approach to this problem, or more precisely this method had been discovered and put into practice at the mines belonging to Torezantratsit. It amounts to the deliberate writing down of the number of workers in comparison with the real state of affairs. The result is felt instantly. The indicators for the growth of labor productivity leap upward and a considerable sum is formed for material encouragement. Thus, management workers at mines belonging to the Torezantratsit associations were illegally paid one-off bonuses to the value of 7,000 rubles.

Here it is reasonable to raise the point of those who checked the accounts: How did they fail to notice that despite the growth in labor productivity actual production of coal remained at the previous level? The mine managers understood that you cannot write up additional tons of fuel extracted without being noticed -- they are there for all to see. However, the quantity of ancillary work that has to be done in order to get the coal seam can be increased simply at the stroke of a pen. That is what (Shenkarenko), director of the Lesnaya Mine; (Kergid), director of the Miusskaya Mine; Stepanov, director of the Snezhnayanskaya Mine; and Polyakov, director of the Udarnik Mine, did. Naturally, as a result of this kind of action, the real prime cost of the extracted coal increased.

It grew also as a result of the uneconomic attitude toward equipment that was not operating and already partly dismantled worth nearly 1/2 million rubles. Instead of removing metal props when a coal seam had been worked out and taking them to a new face, they were simply buried. The people's controllers established losses in metal propping in excess of the norm and concealed from account to the value of 35,000 rubles at the Miusskaya Mine; 15,000 rubles at the Snezhnyanskaya Mine; and 12,000 rubles at the Udarnik Mine. At the same time, evidently demonstrating their desire to perfect production, the mine managers were particularly generous in paying out awards for all manner of rationalizing proposals.

Having added up the damage to the state, the people's control committee of the Ukraine decided that it too would not act sparingly. To make good the damage, it imposed major cash recovery orders on (Grushchenko), economic director of the Torezantratsit Association and on the directors of the Miusskaya, Snezhnayanskaya and Udarnik mines. Shenkarenko, director of the Lesnaya Mine, had been dismissed from his post. The Torez and Snezhnoye town committees of people's control have been instructed to call to disciplinary and material responsibility all those through whose fault bad management and wastefulness have taken place.

RSFSR BOTTLENECKS IN PROJECTS PENDING COMMISSIONS

LD061452 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0500 GMT 6 Mar 84

[From the SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA review]

[Text] The RSFSR's pledges among projects pending commissioning include the first power set of Balakovo AES, with a power of 1 million kw. The builders resolved to commission it in good time and with high quality.

How matters stand now is reported by the paper's correspondent Burov. The offensive is not being steadily mounted everywhere; there are quite a few bottlenecks. The builders are prepared to begin a sliding schedule so as not to halt work even for an hour or on days off. However, the hydroassemblers are still causing a deadlock, having never once coped with the plan. Because of this the concreters are frequently idle, as in turn are the other allied trades. The cause of the stoppage is frequent lack of materials and sometimes the management's lack of administrative ability. The USSR minister of power and electrification, Semenov, [title and name as heard] has charged the manage of the trust, (povshinskiy), to guarantee delivery of products from a number of works which the construction site should have received 6 months ago. But this has not been done yet either, Burov says, and the calendar is inexorably counting off the days remaining until the commissioning.

STOCKHOLM REPORTS 7 MAR SOVIET NUCLEAR TEST

LD071019 Stockholm International Service in Swedish 1000 GMT 7 Mar 84

[Text] The observatory of the Research Institute of the Swedish National Defense early this morning recorded seismic signals from an underground nuclear explosion in the Semipalatinsk area in the Soviet Union. The explosion measured 6.6 on the Richter scale.

COSMOS 1541 LAUNCHED, FUNCTIONING 'NORMALLY'

LD070832 Moscow TASS in English 0825 GMT 7 Mar 84

[Text] Moscow March 7 TASS -- Artificial earth satellite "Cosmos-1541", the next in the series, was launched in the Soviet Union on Tuesday. It is designed to continue outer space exploration.

The satellite was launched into an orbit with the following parameters: initial period of revolution -- 11 hours 50 minutes; maximum distance from the earth's surface -- 39,424 kilometres; minimum distance -- 584 kilometres; inclination of the orbit -- 62.9 degrees.

The onboard equipment is functioning normally.

SOVIET-INDIAN SPACE CREWS UNDERGOING TRAINING

LD071025 Moscow TASS in English 0940 GMT 7 Mar 84

[Text] Moscow March 7 TASS -- Members of the Soviet-Indian space crews have passed with flying colours the test in space docking and are now undergoing pre-flight training at the Soviet Union's Yuriy Gagarin Space Training Centre. The joint space mission is planned to be launched some time during the first half of this year.

One crew includes Yuriy Maliyshev, Gennadiy Strekalov and India's cosmonaut-researcher Rakesh Sharma, the other Anatoliy Berezovoi, Georgiy Grechko and Ravish Malhotra.

Members of the commission noted the high professional standards of Soviet and Indian crew members.

The spacemen have also passed the main medical examination. Medical people were satisfied that all the crew members could cope with the requirements of the orbital flight.

Our Indian colleagues, Flight Commander Yuriy Maliyshev told TASS, are experienced test pilots. They are knowledgeable specialists and responsible people. All this has helped them to master space technology fairly quickly. During the time set aside for their training at the Star City outside Moscow they developed basic skills in performing certain operations needed in orbital flight. These include the putting of the "Soyuz-T" ship into orbit, control of the flight itself and soft landing in a descent module.

A thorough attitude to the forthcoming flight, Malyshev continued, enviable industry and inquisitiveness have helped my Indian friends to gain skills in coping with quite a few emergency situations and now to pass a crucial test in space docking.

DEFENSE MINISTRY PARTY AKTIV PUBLISHED

PM281826 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 25 Feb 84 First Edition p 2

[TASS report on USSR Defense Ministry Party Aktiv]

[Text] A meeting of the USSR Defense Ministry's party aktiv which took place 24 February in Moscow discussed the results of the extraordinary February Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee and the tasks of the Defense Ministry's party organizations stemming from the plenum decisions and the propositions and conclusions contained in the speech delivered by CPSU Central Committee General Secretary K.U. Chernenko.

The report was delivered by Marshal of the Soviet Union D.F. Ustinov, member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee and USSR Minister of Defense. The extraordinary February Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee, he said, unanimously elected to the post of CPSU Central Committee General Secretary Comrade K.U. Chernenko, an outstanding figure of our party and state. This decision has met with the unanimous approval of Soviet people, of Army and Navy Communists, and of the entire personnel of the USSR Armed Forces.

The work of the CPSU Central Committee plenum was convincing proof of our party's monolithic cohesion, of the continuity of its policy, and of its unwavering loyalty to Marxism-Leninism and to the political course charted by the 26th CPSU Congress and subsequent Central Committee plenums. Comrade K.U. Chernenko's speech at the plenum contains a specific, profoundly substantiated action program for the implementation of the current, immediate, and strategic tasks facing the party and the people.

After describing the country's successes, and the main directions of its further economic and social development, the rapporteur emphasized that all this is a most important condition for increasing the defense might of the state and the combat potential of the Armed Forces.

The February Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee devoted great attention to the current international situation and the ensuing conclusions and tasks in the field of the party' foreign policy activity, the speaker continued. We do not need military superiority, we do not intend to dictate our will to others. However, nor will we permit the military equilibrium that has been achieved to be smashed. As was stressed at the plenum of the CPSU Central Committee, we will continue to concern ourselves strengthening our country's defense capability, in order that we may have sufficient means to be able to cool the hot heads of the bellicose adventurists.

The rapporteur then dwelled in detail on the practical tasks of the combat improvement of the USSR Armed Forces. The party organizations of the Army and Navy must improve the organization and verification of execution, step up monitoring of the fulfillment of party decisions and of orders and directives, and enhance both exactingness toward every Communist and personal responsibility for the state of affairs in the entrusted sector. It is essential to strive for an exemplary work style and for order in the activity both of the directorates and departments themselves and of the Communists of the formations and units, and at enterprises and institutions, as well as for the effectiveness of socialist competition. We should strengthen the party organizations work at the concluding stage of the important political campaign represented by preparations for the elections to the USSR Supreme Soviet.

The decisions of the extraordinary February Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR defense minister said in conclusion, and the ideas and propositions contained in the plenum speech by Comrade K.U. Chernenko have been received by the Communists and the entire personnel of the Armed Forces with enthusiastic approval, as a militant action program. In response to the plenum decisions the Communists of the Army and Navy are rallying their ranks still more closely around the Leninist Central Committee and its Politburo, and are doing everything incumbent on them to ensure that our Armed Forces are in full readiness to fulfill any order of the motherland in defense of the gains of socialism.

The participants in the party aktiv meeting adopted with enthusiasm a greetings letter to the CPSU Central Committee and to Comrade K.U. Chernenko.

MARSHAL KURKOTKIN WRITES ON ARMY, NAVY DAY

PM051516 Moscow EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA in Russian No 9, Feb 84 (Signed to Press 20 Feb 84) p 7

[Article by Hero of the Soviet Union Marshal of the Soviet Union S.K. Kurkotkin, deputy defense minister and chief of the rear services of the USSR Armed Forces: "Standing Guard Over Peaceful Labor"]

[Text] Notable events and memorable dates have a remarkable property: They help people to understand and consider more deeply the link between the past and the present. And now, in greeting Soviet Army and Navy Day, Soviet people look again and again into the past and seek to assess more fully the importance of the victories won by our people and their Armed Forces on the fronts of the civil war and Great Patriotic War.

This desire has been particularly great recently, now that the 40th anniversary of the victorious consummations of the greatest wartime battles are being celebrated in our country and abroad. From the pinnacles of these notable dates the exploit of the Soviet Armed Forces and our entire people appears increasingly clearly and imposingly to the world.

The year of 1944 has gone down in history as the year of the decisive victories for the Soviet Army. As a result of the offensive operations conducted by the Armed Forces at Leningrad and Novgorod, the Right-Bank Ukraine, Belorussia, and Moldavia, the enemy's powerful strategic groupings were routed.

May 1945, set off by festive salutes, was approaching. The long-awaited victory, for whose 40th anniversary the Soviet people and their Armed Forces are now beginning to prepare, was not far off.

Time passes. The sons and grandsons of the heroes of the Great Patriotic War are now standing in the ranks of the motherland's defenders and are just as vigilantly standing guard over the gains of October as the representatives of older generations.

The 66th anniversary of the Soviet Army and Navy is being celebrated this year in an atmosphere in which our people are having to fulfill the plans for the country's economic and social development in an international atmosphere exacerbated through the fault of the United States. In the past 3 years U.S. military expenditure has been in excess of $640 billion. The accelerated deployment is underway of new strategic offensive weapons: ICBM's, missile-carrying submarines, strategic bombers, long-range air-launched, sea-launched, and ground-launched cruise missiles; U.S. first-strike nuclear weapons are being deployed in West Europe and chemical and other weapons of mass destruction are being stockpiled.

In the complex international situation the party Central Committee and the Soviet Government are consistently and firmly pursuing a peace-loving foreign policy. The Soviet Union is resolutely in favor of agreeing on large-scale confidence-building measures. This would be helped by a pledge by all nuclear powers to renounce first use of nuclear weapons and by an international accord not to use armed force at all. That is the desire of the CPSU and our entire people.

"We do not need military superiority," K.U. Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, has stressed. "We do not intend to dictate our will to others but we will not permit the military equilibrium which has been achieved to be disrupted. And let no one have the slightest lingering doubt: We will continue to be concerned to strengthen our country's defense capability, to ensure that we have sufficient means to cool the bellicose adventurists' hot heads."

The Soviet Armed Forces are a reliable obstacle in the way of aggressive aspirations and a mighty factor of peace and the people's security.

The USSR Armed Forces have been loyal to their lofty vocation from the first days of their existence. Their birth, establishment, and development are inextricably linked with the name of V.I. Lenin and the Communist Party's activity.

Milestones of Glorious Victories

In the flames of the civil war the USSR Armed Forces utterly defeated the hordes of the White Guards and interventionists and defended the gains of Great October.

The Great Patriotic War was an even sterner test for the Soviet people and their Armed Forces. In an unprecedentedly short time the economy was switched from a peacetime to a wartime footing in the country. Under the very hard conditions of the first period of the war the party of Communists mobilized Soviet people to make the maximum use of the objective advantages inherent in the nature of socialism.

In the grim war years the victories at Moscow, Stalingrad, and the Kursk Bulge brought our Army unprecedented glory. The Red Army's breakthrough to the Dnepr ended the fundamental turning point in the war and the strategic initiative passed completely to the Soviet Armed Forces. The Korsun-Shevchenko operation and the "Bagration" operation in Belorussia, the battle for the Soviet Baltic, the liberation of the European peoples, and the storming of Berlin will go down as a glorious page in the history of the Soviet Army's heroic victories which led to the defeat of German fascism.

During the war the Soviet Union also won an economic victory. It is well known that throughout the war Germany, for which enslaved Europe was in fact working, generated more electricity and produced more coal and steel than the USSR. But thanks to the advantages of the planned socialist economy and the people's labor heroism, the Soviet Union surpassed Germany's level of military-industrial production. The victory, to which the workers of the Soviet rear services made a truly inestimable contribution, was won with our own weapons.

Guarding Our Native Frontiers

The people and the Army are united. The Soviet people's love for their Armed Forces is profound and immeasurable. In sending their sons to serve in the Army and Navy the Soviet people provide them with everything necessary for the exemplary fulfillment of their constitutional duty to reliably defend the socialist fatherland.

The Soviet servicemen's educational standard is exceptionally high. Almost 100 percent of servicemen have higher and secondary education. Over 70 percent of officers have higher military or specialized training.

The Armed Forces are provided with the most sophisticated combat equipment. Here the entire complex of interconnected tasks aimed at enhancing the Armed Forces' combat readiness is resolved in the light of the impact of political, economic, scientific and technical and actual military factors.

Experiencing legitimate pride in the standard of technical equipment of the Army and Navy, Soviet servicemen pay tribute to the labor of workers, scientists, designers, engineers, and technicians whose labor, intelligence, and hands have created first-class missiles, tanks, aircraft, ships, and other very sophisticated types of weapons and combat equipment.

The USSR's planned economy, as a unified national economic complex encompassing all links of social production, and the high level of development of production forces, science, and technology make it possible to resolve successfully a wide range of questions in the field of the consolidation of the Soviet state's defense capability. That is why the socialist economy is a firm basis for the motherland's defense might and the material foundation of the Armed Forces' combat might.

The Soviet people's selfless labor has created in the country a reliable economic and scientific potential which accords with the requirements of maintaining the country's defense capability at the proper level.

The economy, science, and technology in our country are now at such a high level that we can very rapidly create any type of weapon on which the enemies of peace would like to count.

The Soviet Armed Forces' combat potential today is a firm fusion of a high degree of technical equipping, martial skill, and indestructible morale. The Soviet Armed Forces are always on guard, always on the alert.

The Strategic Rocket Forces are the motherland's reliable fire shield. They can deliver a retaliatory strike against an aggressor in any part of the world.

Operational-tactical and tactical missiles, modern tanks, and powerful artillery are at the service of the Ground Forces. There has been a substantial increase in the potential of the modern combined arms formations. By comparison with a rifle division of the Great Patriotic War period, the mass of a single artillery-mortar salvo (not counting missile weapons) in a motorized rifle division today has increased dozens of times over.

Combat operations with modern equipment are collective operations. They require the joint efforts of all branches of the Armed Forces. That is why the party is displaying constant concern for their harmonious development.

Substantial changes have taken place in the Air Defense Forces. Equipped with modern anti-aircraft missiles, interceptor fighters, and radar stations and making universal use of the automated control system, they can promptly detect, track, and, if necessary, rapidly destroy airborne targets.

The Navy has changed beyond all recognition. It has become a missile-carrying Navy, has emerged onto the expanses of the world oceans, and can conduct combat operations anywhere on these oceans. Nuclear submarines equipped with ballistic missiles serve as a reliable factor deterring the aggressor.

Scientific and technical progress has had great influence on the development of the Air Force. Thus, modern fighters carry missiles and can strike an aggressor at a wide range of altitudes and speeds.

The Armed Forces Rear Services also keep pace with scientific and technical progress, being the connecting link between the country's economy and its Armed Forces. They supply the troops' mounting requirements with everything necessary for successfully resolving the tasks set them. The Rear Services' foundation is its troops: the aterial supply troops, motor transportation, railroad, highways, and pipeline troops, rear guard troops, and repair, medical, and other units and institutions.

In recent years more rational and effective principles have been elaborated for organizing the rear units and institutions and their implementation is making it possible successfully to perform the increased volume of work on the provision of rear services for the troops.

The improvement of the daily living conditions of the troop personnel and naval forces has undoubtedly played an important part in resolving the tasks of combat and special training. The solicitous attitude of military doctors and employees in the food and clothing services is having a beneficial effect on the troops' combat readiness.

Constant Combat Readiness

As is well known, combat readiness is the main indicator of the troops' high-quality state, the crown of their combat skill. And much has been done in recent years to enhance it. However, life is making increasingly high demands on the training of the Armed Forces servicemen. That is why the standard of combat readiness must constantly increase.

Many factors influence the raising of combat readiness. Its level depends to a decisive degree on the attitude toward matters and the responsibility of commanders, staffs, political organs and the entire personnel with respect to fulfilling their military duty. Combat readiness is determined by the personnel's in-depth knowledge of their weapons and combat equipment and their ability to use them skillfully in combat.

In the new training year the Soviet Armed Forces servicemen are continuing successfully to resolve the set tasks. Under the conditions of mounting military danger they are seeking to further enhance the combat readiness of the troops and naval forces and are directing their efforts toward the good-quality fulfillment of training plans and the in-depth mastering of complex combat equipment.

The indestructible morale of the fatherland's defenders forms the foundation of the combat potential. After all, modern equipment displays itself to the fullest only when it is in the skilled hands of ideologically tempered servicemen devoted to the motherland. That is why, in displaying constant concern for high combat readiness, the CPSU attaches tremendous importance to party political work and seeks the further enhancement of the role of Army and Navy party organizations. The Army and Navy party organizations are the political nucleus of the military collectives. By their activity they ensure unremitting party influence on all aspects of the servicemen's lives.

Socialist competition is a powerful factor in raising combat readiness. This year it was launched under the slogan "Be on the alert, in a state of constant readiness to defend the gains of socialism!"

The servicemen of the missile unit under the command of Lieutenant Colonel A. Pavlov; the Red Banner Orders of Suvorov and Kutuzov Proskurov Motorized Rifle Regiment, where the commander is Major A. Stolyarov; the Smolensk Red Banner Orders of Survorov, Kutuzov, and Bogdan Khmelinitskiy Guards Anti-Aircraft Missile Air Defense Regiment (the commander is Guards Lieutenant, Colonel V. Nechayev); the twice order-bearing guards fighter regiment under the command of Guards Lieutenant Colonel Yu. Temnikov, and the nuclear-powered missile cruiser Kirov, where the commander is Captain A. Kovalchuk were the initiators of this enterprise.

In response to the party's care and attention for the people's defense, the Soviet Armed Forces are selflessly fulfilling their patriotic and international duty and are vigilantly standing guard over peace and socialism.

FESTIVITIES MARK ARMY, NAVY DAY ANNIVERSARY

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA Soiree

PM290954 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 18 Feb 84 Second Edition p 5

[Unattributed report: "Guests of the Editorial Office"]

[Text] A festive soiree devoted to the 66th anniversary of the Soviet Army and Navy was held in the KRASNAYA ZVEZDA editorial office 17 February.

The following were guests of military journalists and of workers and employees of the publishing house and the printing works: Army General N.G. Lyashchenko; Candidate of Military Sciences Colonel General of Aviation V.N. Abramov, deputy commander in chief of the Air Defense Forces for Military Educational Institutions, chief of the Air Defense Forces Military Educational Institutions Directorate, and USSR state prize winner; Hero of the Soviet Union Colonel General of Aviation S.I. Kharlamov, deputy chairman of the USSR DOSAAF Central Committee, and his wife -- RSFSR Honored Cultural Worker Hero of the Soviet Union N.V. Popova, member of the Soviet War Veterans Committee Presidium and chairman of a commission of the Committee for Links with Schools; Colonel General I.D. Isayenko, chief of the USSR Defense Ministry Central Food Directorate; Vice Admiral V.I. Zub, first deputy chief of Navy combat training; USSR Honored Military Navigator Major General of Aviation V.N. Kovtun, deputy chief navigator of the Air Force; Hero of socialist Labor Senior Lieutenant P.A. Vindyukov, retired, heat specialist at the First State Bearing Plant; RSFSR People's Artist, Lenin Prize winner V.S. Lanovoy: and Captain A.S. Kiselev, student at the V.I. Lenin Military-Political Academy.

The "Plamya" vocal and instrumental ensemble (artistic director S. Berezin) performed a festive concert.

The KRASNAYA ZVEZDA collective cordially thanks the newspaper's friends who participated in the festive soiree.

Embassies' Receptions

PM280848 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 25 Feb 84 Second Edition p 1

[TASS report: "Reception Held"]

[Text] 24 Feb -- Receptions were organized at USSR Embassies in foreign countries to mark the 66th anniversary of the Soviet Army and Navy. They were attended by:

in Prague: G. Husak, general secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee and president of the CSSR, and A. Indra, member of the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium and chairman of the Federal Assembly;

in Berlin: E. Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Council;

in Warsaw: Army General W. Jaruzelski, first secretary of the PZPR Central Committee and chairman of the Polish Council of Ministers;

in Ulaanbaatar: J. Batmonh, chairman of the Mongolian Council of Ministers.

Receptions were also held in Sofia, Budapest, Havana, Bucharest, Belgrade, Beijing, Juanda, Maputo, Antananarivo, Vienna, Stockholm, Buenos Aires, Washington, London, Brussels, Oslo, the Hague, Colombia, and other capitals.

USSR NAVY CHIEFS MEET WITH LEADING VETERANS

PM291109 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 22 Feb 84 Second Edition p 3

[Unnamed own correspondent report: "Meeting with Veterans"]

[Text] A meeting was held 20 February between the Navy Military Council and Navy veterans veterans. A report was delivered by Admiral of the Fleet of the Soviet Union S.G. Gorshkov, commander in chief of the Navy, on the role and tasks of veterans in military-patriotic work with young people and in preparing them for naval service.

Hero of the Soviet Union, Captain First Class, retired, I.V. Travkin; Admiral S.Ye. Zakharov, retired; and Rear Admiral V.N. Gagarkin, retired, talked in their speeches about how naval veterans live and work and shared their experience of the work of veterans' councils in propagandizing revolutionary and combat traditions.

Admiral P.N. Medvedev, member of the Military Council and chief of the Navy Political Directorate, spoke at the meeting.

MARSHAL KULIKOV VISIT TO ARMENIA REPORTED

WA020900 [Editorial Report] Yerevan KOMMUNIST in Russian 17 Feb 84 carries on page 1 a 100-word announcement of the arrival of Marshal of the Soviet Union V.G. Kulikov in Yerevan on 16 February. Kulikov was met at the airport by F.T. Sarkisyan, chairman of the Armenian SSR Council of Ministers; G.N. Andreyev, second secretary of the Armenian Communist Party; L.N. Nersesyan, first secretary of the Yerevan Gorkom; Armenian Bureau member Yu.V. Shatalin; Commander of the Red Banner Transcaucasian Military District, Colonel General V.M. Arkhipov; and other officials.

The same newspaper on 19 Feb 84 carries on page 1 a 100-word account of Kulikov's itinerary in Yerevan and departure from Yerevan on 18 February. While in Yerevan, Kulikov visited industrial enterprises and inspected an athletic-cultural complex and several newly-constructed buildings. Those who saw Kulikov off at the airport included Andreyev, Arkhipov, and Shatalin.

USTINOV PRESENTS AWARDS TO MILITARY NOTABLES

PM241524 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 23 Feb 84 Second Edition p 1

[Unattributed report: "High Awards Presented"]

[Text] On the instructions of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium Marshal of the Soviet Union D. F. Ustinov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR defense minister, presented high state awards of the USSR to a large group of servicemen on 22 February. These awards mark their contribution to strengthening the Armed Forces' combat might, special distinction, courage, selflessness, and great military skill, as well as successes achieved in combat and political training.

The title of Hero of the Soviet Union with the award of the Order of Lenin and the Gold Star medal were conferred on Admiral of the Fleet N. I. Smirnov, Colonels V. V. Migunov and V. L. Neverov, and Lieutenant Colonel Y. I. Churilov. Among those awarded the title Hero of Socialist Labor were Marshal of Artillery Y. V. Boychuk, Colonel General of Artillery Y. B. Votintsev, Major General Engineer L. I. Dolinov, and Captain First Class V. P. Rykov. USSR orders were awarded to Colonel Generals A. D. Melekhin, I. P. Repin, V. M. Vishenkov, and G. V. Sredin; Colonel General Engineer Y. A. Pichugin, Colonel General of Aviation L. I. Agurin; Lieutenant Generals Engineers A. G. Kazarov, N. G. Makeko, and R. G. Ponomarev; Lieutenant General of Technical Troops V. A. Vasilyev; Vice Admiral V. I. Zub; Lieutenant Colonel V. V. Ivlev; and other generals and officers.

After warmly congratulating the recipients, USSR Defense Minister Marshal of the Soviet Union D. F. Ustinov said: "It gave me great satisfaction to present the motherland's awards to you. These awards are deserved recognition of the successes achieved by you in building and developing the Armed Forces, in combat and political training, in maintaining the high combat readiness of troops and naval forces, and in the assimilation of complex new technology."

The USSR defense minister passed on to the medal recipients a combat greeting and sincere congratulations from Comrade K. U. Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. He stressed that the high awards are a new manifestation of the concern and attention for the Armed Forces displayed by the Communist Party Central Committee, the Soviet Government, and our people, and on behalf of the recipients and all Armed Forces servicemen expressed to them sincere and profound gratitude.

In conclusion Marshal of the Soviet Union D. F. Ustinov congratulated the recipients on the 66th anniversary of the Soviet Army and Navy and wished them good health and happiness and further successes in their work to strengthen the Armed Forces' combat strength and for the good of the beloved motherland.

Marshals of the Soviet Union N. V. Ogarkov and V. G. Kulikov and other military leaders were present at the award ceremony.

PARTY COMMITMENT TO 'ADEQUATE' DEFENSE NOTED

PM271212 [Editorial report] Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 21 February 1984 Second Edition front-pages a 1,000-word editorial entitled "Important Political Task." It urges the need for the study and discussion of the decisions and materials of the CPSU Central Committee extraordinary February Plenum in the Soviet Army and Navy and explain their significance to servicemen. It proceeds to emphasize the need to link this work with the preparations being conducted in the Soviet Armed Forces for the USSR Supreme Soviet elections. The editorial includes the following paragraph:

"In the present complex and extremely tense international situation the CPSU and the Soviet state are doing everything to uphold and strengthen peace, to deliver mankind from the threat of nuclear war, and to broaden and deepen mutually advantageous international cooperation. At the same time, as was emphasized at the plenum, the party will continue to see to it that our country's defense capability is strengthened and that we have adequate means with which to cool the hot heads of bellicose adventurers."

IMPORTANCE OF HIGH COMBAT READINESS STRESSED

PM011150 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 28 Feb 84 Second Edition p 1

[Editorial: "Strengthening Combat Readiness"]

[Text] The Soviet Armed Forces, which have celebrated their 66th anniversary, are mounting reliable guard over the Soviet people's peaceful labor and the great gains of social.sm. Army and Navy servicemen, like all Soviet people, are demonstrating close cohesion around the CPSU's Leninist Central Committee and its Politburo and unanimously approve and ardently support the party's domestic and foreign policy set forth with utter clarity in the CPSU Central Committee appeal to all voters and USSR citizens and in documents of the extraordinary February (1984) Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee.

Today our Army and Navy are carrying out their lofty duty to the people in an international situation that has been sharply exacerbated through the fault of imperialism. Following a militant, reactionary course, the U.S. Administration has announced a "crusade" against socialism and is conducting an arms race on an unprecedented scale. The siting of new U.S. nuclear missiles that has begun on the territory of a number of West European countries is especially dangerous for the cause of peace. The military preparations are being accompanied by shameless anti-Soviet hysteria. The United States is also drawing other imperialist states into its adventurist policy.

In the face of imperialism's intensification of the threat of war, the CPSU Central Committee and the Soviet Government are taking the necessary measures to strengthen the country's defense and increase the Armed Forces' combat readiness and are doing everything to prevent the forces of aggression from smashing the military equilibrium. Speaking at the party Central Committee February Plenum, Comrade K. U. Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, said: "..Let nobody have the slightest doubt that we will continue to be concerned about strengthening our country's defense capability and will ensure that we have sufficient resources to cool the hot heads of bellicose adventurists."

Under the conditions of the sharply exacerbated international situation; our Armed Forces' personnel are faced with still more responsible tasks. A tireless concern to further increase Army and Navy readiness, to repel aggression from whatever quarter, great vigilance on the part of all servicemen, and still greater efforts by them in combat and political training and the strengthening of military discipline are the main ones.

Now that winter combat training is in full swing and an intense struggle is under way on land, in the air, and on the sea to further improve field, air, and maritime skill, it is important to make high demands with regard to the qualitative indictators of combat and political training, not permit any indulgence or oversimplification, and assess the implementation of every combat training task by the high yardstick of combat and by the personnel's real readiness to conduct combat operations against a strong, technically well-equipped, and perfidious enemy.

The increased demands regarding combat readiness pose with even greater acuteness the question of the responsibility of military cadres and their attitude to their assignments. "A responsible attitude to work," USSR Defense Minister Marshal of the Soviet Union D.F. Ustinov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, noted in his report at the meeting of the USSR Defense Ministry party aktiv, "means above all party principledness, unity of word and deed, great executive discipline, professionalism, purposefulness, the ability to rely on the achievements of military science and on troops' experience, and a sensitive reaction to local needs. A responsible attitude to work means the capacity to find unused reserves and the ability to assess your own work from the standpoint of fulfilling the main task -- increasing the Armed Forces' combat readiness."

That is the criterion with which front-ranking formations, units, and ships approach the assessment of their affairs. Given this approach, there is no room for complacency and self-satisfaction; prospects for progress are seen more clearly, and combat skill grows year in and year out. The 66th anniversary of the Soviet Army and Navy has been marked by new achievements in training and service. A number of units have been awarded Challenge Red Banners for successes in improving combat and political training, in socialist competition, and in strengthening discipline and organization. Many servicemen have been presented with lofty USSR state awards. The trailblazers' experience is our priceless asset. To generalize and disseminate and persistently implement front-ranking methods of military labor and the best models for the performance of duty is to bring the laggards up to the standard of the front-rankers and raise their combat maturity to a new and higher level.

In the struggle to increase combat readiness it is necessary to make more active use of all ways of mobilizing servicemen to selfless military labor. Socialist competition is one of these tried and tested ways. Its slogan "Be alert and in constant readiness to defend the gains of socialism!" reminds every serviceman of his personal responsibility to defend the motherland and his duty to defend it courageously, skillfully, and with dignity and honor. And mature military expertise is required for this. In mastering the science of victory, the motherland's defenders spare no effort in military labor. They are preparing to mark the forthcoming elections to the USSR Supreme Soviet with new successes. This patriotic desire must be constantly supported by organizational work by commanders, political organs, staffs, and party and Komsomol organizations aimed at further increasing the efficiency of combat and political training, still further strengthening military discipline, educating masters of military matters -- excellent-rated servicemen and qualified specialists -- stepping up vigilance, and improving combat readiness.

An important role in the solution of these tasks belongs to purposeful party political work. Commanders, political organs, and party organizations are called upon to profoundly elucidate the party domestic and foreign policy worked out by the 26th congress and the subsequent CPSU Central Committee plenums and servicemen's practical tasks stemming from the exacerbated world situation, which obliges us to keep our powder dry. It is necessary to raise Communists' vanguard role still higher and to call those who are now working at full strength more strictly to account. Particularly vigilant party oversight is required whenever complacency with what has been achieved, stagnation, and lags have emerged. In extending party influence to all aspects of the troops' lives it is necessary to mobilize people to solve new and increasingly complex tasks ensuring permanent high combat readiness.

The experience of history teaches that the stronger our Army and Navy are and the higher their vigilance and combat readiness are, the calmer things are on our borders and the firmer world peace is. Recalling this, Soviet servicemen spare no effort in military labor. Along with the servicemen of the Warsaw Pact armies they mount vigilant guard over the great gains of socialism.

DEFENSE MINISTRY AGRICULTURAL UNITS DISCUSSED

PM051036 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 2 Mar 84 Second Edition p 3

[Colonel P. Altunin report: "Fulfilling the Food Program"]

[Excerpts] An all-army conference of leaders of military sovkhozes, chiefs of the food service, and deputy commanders of districts and fleets for rear services has been held. The tasks of further developing USSR Defense Ministry agricultural enterprises were discussed.

Colonel General M. Sobolev, deputy chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate, addressed the conference.

Marshal of the Soviet Union S. Kurkotkin, USSR deputy defense minister and chief of the USSR Armed Forces Rear Services, summarized the results of the conference.

N. Bay, a senior official of the CPSU Central Committee, took part in the work of the conference.

CANDIDATE DEPUTY GEN TRETYAK'S CAREER VIEWED

PM011638 [Editorial Report] Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 28 February 1984 Second Edition carries on pages 2 and 3 a 3,800-word article entitled "Main Mandate" by special correspondent Colonel G. Kashuba writing from the Red Banner Far East Military District on the life and military career of Army General I.M. Tretyak, candidate USSR Supreme Soviet Soviet of Nationalities deputy for Magadan. The article is carried under the rubric "Candidates of the Peoples" and is written in response to a letter from a Magadan reader who signs herself "mother of a soldier." The article describes Tretyak's work as a military commander, which Koshuba terms "solid training" for the role of deputy, and outlines his present work as commander of the Far East Military District.

SOVIET MILITARY POLITICAL OFFICER IDENTIFIED

PM141653 [Editorial Report] Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 2 February 1984 Second Edition carries on page 2, under the rubric "Following Publicity in KRASNAYA ZVEZDA," a 200-word unattributed report on the follow-up to a 15 September 1983 article critical of field training conditions in the Southern Group of Forces.

The report identifies Major General A. Bilenko as first deputy chief of the Southern Group of Forces Political Directorate.

MILITARY OFFICERS IDENTIFIED IN SOVIET PRESS

PM061705 [Editorial Report] Riga SOVETSKAYA LATVIYA in Russian 18 February 1984 carries a 700-word LATINFORM report on an undated election meeting between the voters of Latvia's Rezeknenskiy Electoral Okrug No 712 and their candidate deputy, Lieutenant General A.V. Betekhtin, who is described as "commander of the Red Banner Baltic Military District." The 23 February issue of the paper front-pages a 300-word LATINFORM report on a 22 February meeting in Riga to mark the 66th anniversary of the Soviet Army and Navy, which it states was addressed by Baltic Military District Commander Betekhtin; the same paper carries on page 3 a 1,600-word article by Betekhtin pegged to Soviet Army and Navy Day.

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 4 March 1984 Second Edition front-pages a 300-word report by Captain Second Rank A. Zlydnev which describes the presentation of a Komsomol Central Committee Challenge Red Banner to the Komsomol organization of the guards' missile cruiser Varyag, stating that the presentation was made by Vice Admiral G. Khvatov, who is identified as "chief of staff of the Red Banner Pacific Fleet."

LAUNCH EXERCISE BY MOBILE MISSILE CREW DESCRIBED

PM141427 [Editorial Report] Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 14 February 1984 publishes on page 4 under the rubric "Sons Serve the Motherland" an 850-word Captain O. Vladykin article entitled "Missilemen's Routine." It describes the actions of a mobile missile crew on an exercise during which the missilemen prepared a launch site and camouflaged the missile and its launcher, completing the job late at night. After a brief rest the missilemen drove the launcher out from its camouflage nets into the launch site and fired the missile at an "enemy" target, scoring a direct hit.

RUDENKO WRITES TRIBUTE TO MARSHAL BATITSKIY

PM221151 [Editorial Report] Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 19 February 1984 Second Edition carries on page 3 a 1,000-word article entitled "Reminiscences of a Combat Comrade" by Marshal of Aviation S. Rudenko. The article is a tribute to Marshal of the Soviet Union P.F. Batitskiy who died on 17 February 1984 and recounts his prewar service career, his "talent as a commander clearly revealed" in World War II, and his postwar service as chief of the Armed Forces Main Staff, commander in chief of the Air Defense Forces, and USSR deputy defense minister.